

EEC summit deadlock on sanctions

EEC leaders meeting in The Hague were still deadlocked last night on taking sanctions against South Africa. Mrs Thatcher has told Mr Kinnock that Labour's sanctions proposals would not lead to peaceful change.

From Richard Owen, The Hague. Sources said Britain was willing to consider reluctantly limited "negative" sanctions provided they were combined with positive measures, such as legal and financial aid to black opposition groups.

Deep divisions arose among the 12 nations at the EEC summit on adopting an immediate package of measures. A possible compromise solution, discussed by EEC leaders over dinner at the medieval town hall here, is a declaration of intent coupled with a diplomatic dialogue with the South African Government designed to avert the need for EEC measures.

Sources said Britain was not isolated over the issue, and Mrs Thatcher was far from being the only EEC leader to resist sanctions. Pressure is on Chancellor Helmut Kohl of West Germany to support a compromise package.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, told the summit Britain wanted a peaceful solution to the South African crisis through negotiation and dialogue, and any EEC measures had to be "targeted to meet that end".

Parliament 4, Information conflict 7, Geoffrey Smith 7, EEC summit 7, David Watt 16. Jean-Bernard Ramond, the French Foreign Minister, and Mr Peter Barry, the Irish Foreign Minister, failed to attend a Foreign Ministers' meeting called by the Dutch to try to hammer out an eleven-hour agreement.

Herr Genscher's absence was crucial, officials said, since no progress could be made without West German agreement. The three "negative" sanctions put forward by the Dutch presidency are: a ban on imports of South African fruit, vegetables and wine; a ban on coal and steel imports from South Africa; and a ban on the sale of kruggerands and other gold coins.

In addition, the summit noted a report by senior EEC officials that apartheid had created "a political climate in South Africa which is unfavourable to foreign investment, the provision of credit facilities and the promotion of tourism and trade". Officials said Mrs Thatcher supported the third option - the ban on kruggerands, since Britain had itself imposed such a ban earlier this year.



Anne Hobbs powering her way to a second-round victory over American Zena Garrison at Wimbledon yesterday

Hobbs win over No 9 seed

By John Goodbody Sports News Correspondent. Anne Hobbs, the British champion, put up her best performance in 10 years of play at Wimbledon yesterday by defeating American Zena Garrison, a second seed last year and the No 9 seed, by 6-4, 6-6, 6-4 in the second round.

Another Briton, Tamson's Andrew Castle, also fighting in yesterday's second round, nearly pulled off one of the biggest upsets in recent Wimbledon tournaments when he took Mats Wilander of Sweden, ranked 285 in the world, out 6-4, 6-7, 7-6, 4-6, 6-0. Castle, ranked 385 in the world, won after 3 hours 45 minutes.

Paul Hutchins, the national team manager, said afterwards: "It was one of the most heartening performances I have seen from a British player at Wimbledon for many years and to get a standing ovation from the crowd on Court No 1 was a magnificent achievement."

Ticket forgeries, page 3. Reports, page 40.

Driver banned 'under limit'

By Craig Seton. In the first case of its kind in Britain, a motorist has been found guilty of drink driving and banned, even though the amount of alcohol in his blood was well below the legal limit.

West Midlands police called in a forensic scientist to estimate how much alcohol would have been in the blood of Mr Stephen Gumbley, aged 35, of Brixton, London, after his car had crashed in Birmingham city centre, killing his brother Gordon.

Mr Gumbley was taken to a police station, but he was not subjected to a breath test because he complained of feeling unwell. A blood test was not taken until four hours and 20 minutes after the accident while he was being treated at a Birmingham hospital.

The test showed his sample contained 59 milligrammes of alcohol per 100 millilitres of blood - well below the legal limit of 80 milligrammes. But it was estimated the motorist's alcohol level would have been a minimum of 110 milligrammes and a maximum of 162 at the time of the crash.

After the hearing, Superintendent Kevin Birch, the deputy head of West Midlands central traffic headquarters, said the successful prosecution meant that no drink driving motorist would be safe from prosecution, even if he or she escaped giving a specimen for analysis many hours after they were stopped.

Last night, Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney-General, tonight came under fierce pressure to amend the drink-drive law "as a matter of the utmost urgency".

Mr Nicholas Brown, the Shadow Solicitor General, said: "This is a very worrying development and certainly was not what Parliament had in mind when the original legislation was passed."

Dr John Havard, secretary of the British Medical Association, claimed that back-calculations were against the law and unscientific.

Mr Gumbley appeared before a special sitting of Birmingham magistrates and pleaded not guilty to driving with excess alcohol and failing to provide a breath specimen. He admitted driving without due care and attention.

Mr Gumbley was found guilty of the drink driving charge and banned from driving for a year, with a fine of £30 and £100 costs.

MPs support quick decision over Stalker

By Richard Evans and Peter Davenport. The police investigation into Mr John Stalker, deputy chief constable of Greater Manchester, is to continue in spite of his protests that he is innocent of any wrong doing and mounting concern from MPs.

In the Commons, Mr Mark Carlisle, a former Conservative Cabinet minister, yesterday warned the Government that the Stalker case appeared to involve an element of "character assassination".

Mr Carlisle, QC, a former Home Office Minister and Secretary of State for Education, was cheered by MPs on both sides when he said it was essential if disciplinary charges were to be brought against Mr Stalker that they should be formulated quickly, or he should be "rapidly" restored to his present post.

Two other lawyers in the Commons, Mr Alex Carlisle, QC, Liberal MP for Montgomery, and Mr Cecil Franks, a solicitor and Conservative MP for Barrow and Furness, joined to protest at the treatment of Mr Stalker, who was removed from the inquiry into an alleged shoot-to-kill policy by the Royal Ulster Constabulary after allegations about his own conduct.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, called for a Commons statement next week on the Stalker case, while Mr Robert Kilroy-Silk, Labour MP for Knowsley north, attacked "this disgraceful public trial, where innuendo and rumour had been given currency and Mr Stalker had received no opportunity to defend himself and state his case."

Mr Douglas Hurd, Home Secretary, insisted that he had no power to intervene in the inquiry. He would only become involved if an appeal was made to him against any disciplinary offences.

But he told MPs: "The sooner this matter can be cleared up under the procedure laid down by Parliament, the better for all concerned."

An interim report on the Stalker inquiry, which began a month ago and forced Mr Stalker's removal from the RUC investigation, was delivered yesterday to the Police Complaints Authority by Mr Colin Sampson, chief constable of West Yorkshire, who is leading a team of 10 detectives on the case.

Mr Roland Moyle, deputy chairman of the authority and the supervising officer in the inquiry, also held two hours of talks yesterday with Mr Norman Briggs, a Labour councillor and chairman of the Greater Manchester Police Authority, and its clerk, Mr Roger Rees.

Mr Briggs was expected to come under criticism for his handling of the affair at a meeting of the Labour group last night. Some members want Mr Stalker to be allowed to return to his desk, insisting that he has been unfairly treated.

After yesterday's meeting a spokesman for the Police Complaints Authority said that it was satisfied with the progress of the investigation and that the allegations deserved further careful investigation.

He said: "If proved to the required standard, they are capable of amounting to the disciplinary offence of bringing discredit upon the force." It is expected that the inquiry will take at least another month to complete, at the end of which Mr Stalker will be formally interviewed under caution.

The allegations against him centre around his long friendship with Mr Kevin Taylor, a Manchester businessman, and, in particular, concern a holiday they shared and four social functions they attended together between 1982 and 1985 at which known criminals were said to have been present.

At a press conference on Wednesday, Mr Stalker denied associating with criminals and that he had done anything to breach the police code of conduct.

Continued on page 2, col 5.

Armstrong to stay on as Cabinet Secretary

The Prime Minister has asked Sir Robert Armstrong, the Cabinet Secretary, to stay on beyond his expected retirement date until the next general election (Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent writes).

Sir Robert, who is also head of the Home Civil Service, has been Cabinet Secretary since 1979 and was due to retire on March 30 next year, his sixtieth birthday. He has agreed to the Prime Minister's request.

Downing Street said in a statement last night that Mrs Thatcher had asked Sir Robert to stay until not later than September 1988 "so as to leave the greatest possible degree of freedom for decisions after the general election about the organization of functions and distribution of duties at the centre of government."

Mrs Thatcher is known to hold Sir Robert in the highest esteem and there was no surprise among her colleagues last night that she did not want a change in such a sensitive and key post so close to an election.

Lawyers' revised pay offer to remain secret

By Frances Gibb, Legal Affairs Correspondent. The Lord Chancellor's revised pay offer to lawyers in England and Wales for criminal legal aid work will be put to both branches of the profession today in secret.

Both the Lord Chancellor's Department and the Law Society, the solicitors' professional body, had expected that the offer would be made public.

But the Bar has requested that the offer be made in confidence on the ground that once it was public, it would be difficult for negotiations to take place or for the offer to be improved.

Yesterday the Lord Chancellor's Department and Law Society issued a joint statement explaining that they were prepared to agree to the Bar's request.

"The Law Society is conscious that the solicitors' profession could justifiably expect to be kept informed." The society nevertheless believed that solicitors would appreciate that the continuing negotiations "may be more productively carried out" if the Lord Chancellor's proposals remain confidential.

Under the binding timetable for talks agreed after the Bar's legal action against Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, the Lord Chancellor must make his proposals by today, and his final offer by July 16.

Sahara air heralds hot spell

By a Staff Reporter. Britain basked in a mini-heatwave yesterday with temperatures reaching 84F in the West Country and weathermen predicting a hot weekend up to 10 degrees above the norm for late June.

In London a stiff breeze kept the temperature down to 77F (25C) while in Glasgow thermometers touched 75F (24C), the hottest place was Bristol, where temperatures reached 84F (29C).

Only the threat of occasional thunderstorms spoils the outlook for the weekend, as warm winds sweep up from Spain and north Africa.

The London Weather Centre said: "We're getting some Sahara air, although it's wandered about a bit before reaching us, and there shouldn't be any radical change until after the weekend."

June, however, which started cool, is not expected to furnish an average temperature much different from the 70F (21C) norm.

The weather centre is providing Wimbledon with forecasts every two hours. Weather forecast, page 20. Match report, page 40.

No early end for emergency rule

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg. South Africa's Bureau for Information reported that another five blacks were killed in the 24 hours up to 6 am yesterday, and a senior government minister served notice that there would be no early end to the country-wide state of emergency.

Speaking in Nelspruit, in the eastern Transvaal, Mr Louis Le Grange, the Minister of Law and Order, said the Government would not repeat the mistake of suspending the emergency regulations too soon - presumably a reference to the partial state of emergency lifted on March 7 after 229 days in force.

"We are determined to apply all aspects of the regulations and are not prepared to negotiate with any hostile forces," Mr Le Grange said. He claimed that there had been a dramatic reduction in the level of violence since the state of emergency began.

Mr Le Grange's remarks reinforced comments made by President Botha earlier in the week in an interview with the Milan daily newspaper, *Il Giornale*, in which he dismissed as "speculation by journalists" suggestions that the emergency would be lifted at the end of the month.

Many newspapers here have discussed the possibility that new security legislation introduced through Parliament last week by the Government might soon replace the emergency regulations. The new laws give the police the equivalent of emergency powers without the need for a formal declaration of an emergency.

A small number of trade union officials, including Mr Piroshaw Caray, the secretary-general of the Council of Unions of South Africa, one of the main black labour federations, were released from prison after 14 days in detention under the emergency provisions.

Their release came after several days of talks between the Government and business leaders alarmed about the impact on industrial relations of the detentions. Protest strikes by hundreds of black workers have plagued the retail industry for the past two weeks.

The Prime Minister and other ministers continued yesterday to voice opposition to general economic sanctions against South Africa even as EEC ministers met to discuss a package of measures (Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent, writes).

As the Prime Minister travelled to The Hague, Downing Street issued a letter from Mrs Thatcher in which she spoke of the serious risk that sanctions "would increase violence and bloodshed".

Tomorrow

Irresistible force. Can anyone stop Diego Maradona? Stuart Jones previews the West Germany-Argentina World Cup final.

Portfolio Gold

The Times Portfolio Gold daily competition prize of £4,000 was shared yesterday by four readers: Mrs S.Pontin of Burgess Hill, West Sussex; Mrs D.K.Chatterton of Ferring, West Sussex; Mr A.Jackson of London, S.W.6; and Mrs E.Blake of Dingwall, Ross and Cromarty.

Portfolio list, page 24; rules and how to play, information service, page 20.

Tomorrow, £12,000 can be won - £8,000 in the weekly competition and £4,000 in the daily.

£450m barrage. A £450 million barrage is proposed for the river Mersey, with the possibility of tidal electricity by 1996. Page 3.

On This Day. Our correspondent writes from Appleby, Westmorland, of the high feelings, brawls and abuse accompanying General Election hustings on June 27, 1826. Page 17.

Tripes results. Tripos examination results from Cambridge in land economy, chemical engineering (parts 1 and 2), computer science and mathematics (parts 2 and 3) are published today. Page 12.

Home News 2.35, Leaders 17, Overseas 7.12, Letters 17, Arts 19, Births, deaths, marriages 18, Business 21.57, Sport 36.49, Crosswords 14.20, TV & Radio 39, Diary 16, Features 14.16, Law Report 35, Weather 20.

Thatcher still opposed to general sanctions

The Prime Minister and other ministers continued yesterday to voice opposition to general economic sanctions against South Africa even as EEC ministers met to discuss a package of measures (Philip Webster, Chief Political Correspondent, writes).

As the Prime Minister travelled to The Hague, Downing Street issued a letter from Mrs Thatcher in which she spoke of the serious risk that sanctions "would increase violence and bloodshed".

In a letter to Mr Neil Kinnock, she said the general economic sanctions proposed by the Labour Party would not lead to peaceful change.

In the Commons Mr John Biffen, standing in for the Prime Minister at Question Time, said mandatory and comprehensive sanctions would be disastrous.

Mr Kinnock said last night that the Prime Minister must not miss the opportunity provided by The Hague to lay the basis for a united Commonwealth and EEC approach on a package of "strict measures" to promote a non-violent end to apartheid.

Falklands flights deal

Virgin Atlantic, Mr Richard Branson's airline, announced yesterday that it had won a short-term Ministry of Defence contract to operate Boeing 747 flights to carry servicemen, contractors and cargo to the Falkland Islands.

The service will operate via Ascension Island. The value of the contract was not disclosed, but it is for three round trips next month.

Mr Branson said yesterday, shortly before leaving New York for his blue Riband record attempt: "I am delighted to hear that private enterprise has won this contract for the Falklands, in spite of stiff competition from the major airlines."

The aircraft to be used, called Scarlet Lady and currently operating on routes to the US, will be flown by Virgin pilots.

Branson tries again, page 20.

Nigerian court frees British engineers

Lagos (Reuters) - Two British engineers held in Nigeria for more than two years yesterday won their appeal against 14-year jail terms for conspiracy and theft of an executive jet.

Kenneth Clark, aged 39, and Angus Paterson, aged 41, were arrested in May 1984 when two British pilots flew the HS-125 jet out of Nigeria, defying a military regulation grounding private planes.

Trade deficit hits £666m as oil slumps

A slump in the value of oil exports to their lowest level for six years helped produce a £666 million trade deficit for Britain last month. But services and the other invisible items of trade pushed the current account into surplus, by £34 million.

The deficit on visible trade so far this year, £2.33 billion, exceeds the total for the whole of last year, mainly because of the collapse in oil prices.

The Bank of England, in its June Quarterly Bulletin, emphasized the need for a cautious approach on interest rates. Details, page 21.

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Workers have never had it so good, Tebbit insists

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

Mr Norman Tebbit yesterday defended Lord Young of Graffham's remark last month that the 87 per cent of people in work have never had it so good.

The Conservative Party chairman told businessmen at the Cutler's Feast in Sheffield that the truth of his Cabinet colleague's observation had been partly obscured by the "blinkered criticisms" of the opposition parties and sections of the press.

It was denounced as an "insult" to the unemployed by Mr Gerald Kaufman, Labour's home affairs spokesman, and also came under attack from Tory backbenchers on the left of the party.

Mr Tebbit said: "David Young had it right: those in work have it good, and they want it better. But they had better look at the consequences."

Spilling unit wage costs, which rose 8.25 per cent in the first quarter of this year, would price those in work out of jobs and keep the unemployed on the sidelines.

Mr Tebbit rebuked both managers and union leaders, saying manufacturing industry appeared to have within it "too many people who have learnt nothing in the last decade".

Mr Tebbit couched his warnings about the dangers of excessive wage rises with a typically robust assault on those, within and outside his party, who are pressing the

Government to try to boost employment through higher public spending.

That approach was "dangerously wrong" and would lead to inflation and economic decline.

"I will argue long and hard against those who claim that the way to more jobs is through more spending," Mr Tebbit also discounted the middle way, a small increase in taxes to bring more jobs and help the unemployed.

Although he applauded the motives of those ready to make that sacrifice, they had to realize that it is the size of their pay packet that determines the outlook for jobs.

"Lower pay increases can save jobs. Lower pay increases can make jobs. And lower taxation can raise take-home pay for those in work without risking jobs or prejudicing the chances of those seeking work."

Nearly one million new jobs had been created since 1983, but they had not cut the dole queues because the population of working age had risen by one and a half million in the past 10 years and there had also been a sharp increase in the number of women going out to work.

This year the Government is spending £2,500 million on employment and training measures aimed at equipping people for work, but although those were necessary, they were not the "real answer", Mr Tebbit said.

Firm chiefs joust for top Tory post

By Our Political Reporter

A big behind-the-scenes struggle is taking place in the Conservative Party over who will take over as chairman of the powerful National Union Executive Committee.

Superficially, the battle is being seen as a contest between the grandees and the Thatcherites, but the differences between the three candidates centre more on style than political substance.

The post, which is held for five years, carries enormous prestige and influence. As representative of the voluntary wing of the Conservative Party, the chairman has untrammelled access to Downing Street and his term of office is normally rewarded with a peerage.

Added attention is being attached to the election, the subject of speculation and political machination at Central Office, because the next term of office is almost certain to coincide with Mrs Thatcher's departure and the selection of a new leader.

The executive committee oversees key areas such as party discipline and reselection of MPs, and exercises a vital function in acting as the eyes and ears of Mr Norman Tebbit, the party chairman.

The three contenders are all wealthy businessmen: Sir Basil Feldman, aged 59, a multi-millionaire clothing magnate; Sir Peter Lane, aged 61, a senior partner in a firm of chartered accountants; and Sir Ian McLeod, aged 59, who was

born in South Africa and runs a computer company.

The party establishment, with Lord Sanderson, the shadow outgoing committee chairman playing a prominent part, have united behind Sir Peter. They want to see the job go to someone who can continue the tradition of exercising influence with discretion.

Sir Basil, with his showbusiness connections and flamboyant, gregarious, wisecracking manner, is being seen as too brash a figure to elect to such a sensitive post.

Nevertheless, he is said to enjoy Mrs Thatcher's support. Mr Tebbit's view on the succession is not known but Mr Jeffrey Archer, his deputy, is said to favour Sir Peter.

Politically, Sir Ian is probably the driest of the three. Sir Basil appears to be the victim of a whispering campaign, with suggestions that senior party figures fear he would irritate Mrs Thatcher over footling matters.

Sir Basil has held various party posts and is a vice-chairman of the National Union of Conservative Associations. Sir Peter, like his chief rival, is a former chairman of the union.

Sir Basil's chief power base is in London and the East Midlands and it is being suggested that Sir Ian is standing solely to split his vote. An allegation he strongly denies.

Thatcher wants more women MPs

Mrs Thatcher says she would like to see three or four times as many women in Parliament as at present, although she thought many would not like getting up and making speeches in public, because they tended to sound too strident.

Speaking on the Central Television programme *Central Lobby*, Mrs Thatcher said it was a "great disappointment" that the

number of women MPs had not increased over the past 50 years.

There are only 26 women in Parliament, about 4 per cent of the total of 650 MPs. The proportion, which has remained virtually unchanged, in spite of the fact that women account for 52 per cent of the electorate.

The Prime Minister said women were shrewd, percep-

Heseltine calls for inner-city subsidies

By Hugh Clayton

The Government has not done enough to help economic revival in the inner cities, Mr Michael Heseltine, former Secretary of State for Defence who resigned over the Westland affair, said yesterday.

He called for extra subsidies for new small companies in deprived areas. They would include payment of loan costs in the first year of business and freedom from rates in the first two.

"There is a growing number of Conservative colleagues who share these views," Mr Heseltine told reporters before speaking at the annual conference of the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy in Bournemouth.

He would not say if he had proposed such changes unsuccessfully when he had been Secretary of State for the Environment in the early 1980s. He pioneered task forces to regenerate deprived inner cities after riots in Toxteth, Liverpool, and Brixton, south London, in 1981.

"I am not prepared to become involved in discussions of what I did and did not do when I was in government," Mr Heseltine said.

"I am making proposals about the structure of government which it would not have been appropriate for the Secretary of State for the Environment or Defence to do within the collective consensus of government."

He called for the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry to be given the same status in the Government as the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

"The concern of governments in this country has been with economic strategy, but it is not concerned with the minutiae of industrial strategy."

The Japanese, French and West German economies have been more successful than the British. There was much that Britain could learn from them.

"Our industrial decline is not the product of one party or one government. It has flowed over time because the divisions within the capitalist system have been exploited by politics."

Labour gives rates pledge

Central government should allow local councils to set their rates without using the grant mechanism to penalize high spenders, Mr Roy Hattersley, the shadow Chancellor of the Exchequer, said (George Hill writes).

He told the annual conference of the Association of District Councils, in Eastbourne, that a Labour government would remove the "coercive element" from the rate support grant formula.

"Councils must be allowed to assess their own needs and raise whatever level of local revenue is, first, necessary to meet them and, second, acceptable to the local voters."

Labour has been committed to repeal the Rates Act, 1984, with its machinery to penalize councils setting their rates above a determined level, by cutting grants by £1.20, or more, for every £1 by which a council's rate exceeds its assessment.

"Of course I know that a promise to remove the coercive element will provoke some newspapers into orgies of prophecy about rate increases under Labour," Mr Hattersley said.

Kinnock's onslaught on Star Wars

By Paul Valley

The US government's Star Wars programme is more likely to cause a massive escalation of the arms race than bring an end to it, Mr Neil Kinnock claimed yesterday.

The Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) would also destabilize Nato, take critical nuclear decisions out of human hands and give them to computers, lead to a new brain drain on British scientific talent, and be extravagantly expensive.

He was speaking in London at the launch of a wide-based anti-Star Wars pressure group. The aims of The Coalition Against Star Wars also received the support of Dr David Owen, leader of the SDP, and Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party, along with that of an extensive collection of nuclear physicists, computer experts and environmental and peace groups.

Mr Kinnock described the concept of an invulnerable nuclear umbrella as a "dangerous fantasy" which created false notions of security. He quoted the words of Mr George Ball, a former US Ambassador to the United Nations, who had denounced President Reagan's Star Wars suggestion as "one of the most irresponsible acts by a head of State in modern times."

The SDI plan was contrary to the best strategic defence interests of the West, Mr Kinnock said. It would add a new dimension to the arms race which would invite the Russians to respond with massively increased numbers of missiles designed to pierce or evade the SDI system.

Mr Steel, in a statement to the meeting, described SDI as "a programme not only in search of a strategy but also of feasibility". It was a "quantum leap into a political, strategic and technological abyss". He also attacked the financial returns of British

involvement, which were now seen to be only a tiny percentage of what had been promised.

Dr Owen said that the SDP did not oppose prudent research into space defence systems; but SDI, he said, relied on technological progress the feasibility of which was unknown.

"It is designed to be effective only against ballistic missiles and would have no effect on cruise missiles. It might therefore impose strains on



Mr Neil Kinnock at yesterday's launch of the Coalition Against Star Wars (Photograph: Chris Harris).

Nato since it might be perceived as the first stage of an American disengagement from the European allies.

SDI, even in its early research stages, would also draw resources away from other areas of defence effort.

Nuclear physicists and computer scientists at the meeting attacked the scientific premises on which the Star Wars scheme rested. These were based on fantasy rather than what was scientifically possible, they argued.

Walker restates nuclear policy

By Teresa Poole

The Western world faces a severe recession if it abandoned nuclear power, Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy said yesterday.

For the first time in man's history, a world crippled by a shortage of energy had become a possibility, he told the Engineering Employers' Federation.

"The eradication of nuclear energy has dangers that cannot be met. The Third World could not enhance its living standards. The developed world would plunge to lower living standards," he said.

"We care about the standards of living of generations yet to come, we must meet the challenges of the nuclear age and not retreat in to the irresponsible course of leaving our children and grandchildren a world in deep and probably irreversible decline."

The recession and massive unemployment that came after the 1973 oil shock had been nothing compared with the likely impact of eradicating nuclear power, he added.

Mr Walker's speech comes at a time when public faith in nuclear power has been severely shaken by the nuclear accident at Chernobyl. It appears to put the Government firmly on the side of further investment in nuclear power, just three months before the public inquiry on the proposed £1,300 million Sizewell B pressurised water reactor is due to report.

Mr Walker admitted that the Chernobyl incident had activated the "fear of the unknown", but said there were no alternatives which were likely to be available within the near future.

Mr Stewart Boyle, energy campaigner at Friends of the Earth, said Mr Walker appeared to be preparing the public for a quick decision on Sizewell B, regardless of what the inquiry recommended.

New plays lead £7m TV drama festival

The BBC announced a £7 million summer festival of drama yesterday, which will feature 35 new plays and films (Our Arts Correspondent writes).

Both channels will show a play a week from next month until the end of October, some by writers new to television.

Paul Scofield appears in a BBC Scotland production, *Only Yesterday*, by Julian Gloyne, the novelist, along with Dame Wendy Hiller, on July 13. Co-star Chapman, Barry Foster, Sheila Gish and John Stride play leading roles in *Born in the Gardens*, Clive Swift appears in *Altogether Now*, and Joan Hickson plays a criminal in *Daylight Robbery*.

Parliament, page 4

19 held in fraud swoop

Nineteen people were being questioned by the police last night about a fraud conspiracy after raids by detectives on a score of homes in the Reading and Maidenhead areas.

They were held during Operation Bodkin, described as a lengthy investigation involving police, social security inspectors and members of the Post Office investigation unit. A detective emphasized that the people held are not all claimants.

Militant plea is deferred

Mr Tony Mulhearn, president of Liverpool district Labour party, who was expelled from the national party last month because of his links with Militant Tendency, failed in the High Court yesterday to win an order compelling the executive to consider what they said to each other in considering his case.

But the judge said that Mr Mulhearn must renew the application today when he seeks an injunction to stop the executive from implementing their decision to expel him.

Barrister is suspended

Mr Vivian Price, QC, has been suspended from practising as a barrister for six months from June 17.

The disciplinary tribunal of the Solicitors of the Inns of Court and the Bar imposed the sentence after finding proved the charges of professional misconduct relating to Mr Price's conviction by London magistrates of failing to supply Value Added Tax returns; and later proceedings for failing to pay the fines.

Vets' anger at slaughter

Veterinary surgeons are outraged at the suggestion that ritual slaughter of animals without stunning was to continue, the British Veterinary Association said yesterday.

The Farm Animal Welfare Council has recommended that legislation permitting such slaughter should be repealed, but although ministers are studying the report, their delay in making a response has been widely interpreted as an unwillingness to act.

£16m school vandalism bill

Vandalism and arson to school buildings cost 60 education authorities £16 million last year, it was disclosed yesterday.

Mr Chris Patten, Minister of State for Education, said his department has sent councils a discussion paper on methods of protecting schools against damage and theft, which are committed by outsiders as well as pupils.

£400m Rover deal in US

Austin Rover has won a deal to sell 30,000 of its new Rover cars in the United States.

It is worth at least £400 million in the first year and supplies of spare parts will add millions more to the order. American dealers were impressed when they saw the top model, the Sterling, at a sneak preview a year ago.

New outbreak of swine fever

A new outbreak of classical swine fever, the eighth so far this year, was confirmed yesterday on a farm at Milton Abbot, Devon.

Several hundred pigs were slaughtered and the Ministry of Agriculture launched an immediate investigation.

Gun charge

Nezar Hindawi, an Arab charged with trying to destroy a jumbo jet at Heathrow Airport and conspiring to murder his pregnant girlfriend, was further accused of unlawfully having a semi-automatic pistol and two magazines containing 11 bullets, when he appeared on remand at Lambeth Magistrates' Court yesterday.

Meacher pledges £3bn NHS boost

By Nicholas Wood, Political Reporter

Britain is the lowest spender on health of any Western country in OECD, except Greece and Portugal.

Mr Michael Meacher, Opposition spokesman on health and social security, yesterday committed a future Labour government to spending £3 billion on the NHS over five years.

He said his party would follow the Tory example over defence and guarantee three per cent growth above the rate of inflation to erase the "culture of decay and despair" bequeathed by the Government.

Mr Meacher denied that the target was "over ambitious", saying that both France and West Germany spend 50 per cent more on health as a proportion of gross national product than Britain.

"Under this Government,

Charity tax relief scheme unveiled

By Mark Dowd

Details of the new payroll scheme for charities, announced by the Chancellor in his March budget, were unveiled in a prospectus issued yesterday by the Inland Revenue.

It is an entirely new tax relief for charitable donations of up to £100 a year and forms part of a wider package which will increase substantially the tax reliefs available to individuals and businesses who wish to make charitable contributions.

The scheme would be entirely voluntary, with employees having to "contract in", whilst retaining the freedom to stipulate which charities are to be benefited.

The agencies would then act as clearing houses.

Charities received £433 million in the last financial year from the private covenant tax relief schemes.

Comments on the proposals will be welcomed by the Inland Revenue until July 31.

Police sue Government for more cash

The West Yorkshire Police Authority claimed in the High Court in London yesterday that its £50.17 million grant for the coming year from the Secretary of State for the Environment was not enough to carry out its statutory duties.

It is asking Mr Justice McCowan to quash the minister's decision that the figure for grant-related expenditure was sufficient to meet its needs.

Mr Alan Fletcher, QC, for the authority, told the judge it was seeking a declaration that the ruling under the 1980 Local Government and Land Planning Act was contrary to the law.

He said the minister had erred in law by failing to take into account the fact that the Home Secretary had determined the authority's level of expenditure under the 1984 Rates Act at £60.16 million.

Mr Hurd had indicated that he was proposing to increase the level at a later date to #63.269 million which he said would allow the authority to discharge its statutory duties under the 1964 Police Act.

The judge was told that another authority, Merseyside, had intended bringing a similar action. But the minister had agreed that the result of West Yorkshire's claim would apply to Merseyside as well.

The hearing continues today.

Stalker affair Investigations from within

By Stewart Tendler, Crime Reporter

The Police Complaints Authority came into being in April 1985, succeeding the Police Complaints Board and created by the Police and Criminal Evidence Act passed late in 1984. The chairman of the authority is Sir Cecil Clothier, the former Ombudsman.

The authority is made up of a chairman and at least eight other members appointed by the Home Secretary. Two of the eight sit as deputy chairmen and one of these is Mr Roland Moyle, a former Labour junior minister.

Members of the authority are appointed for three years. Within the authority there are two divisions. One deals with discipline cases and the other handles the supervision of complaints.

Some categories of case must be referred to the authority such as allegations that a policeman's conduct has led to death or serious injury. Cases can be referred to the authority by a chief constable or police authority and the authority can take over an investigation if the authority thinks it is in the public interest.

Both chief constables and police authorities can also refer a matter to the complaints authority if they believe an officer has committed a crime or breach of discipline which should be passed to the authority because of the gravity of what is said to be involved.

When the authority takes over a case it approves the appointment of an investigating officer who works with a member of the authority. The authority member oversees the work and the authority can pass the final report to the Director of Public Prosecutions.

Since the authority began operations its members have been involved in the investigation into the shooting of Mrs Cherry Groce, which led to the Brixton riots in south London.

Parliament, page 4

MPs back call for speedy decision

Continued from page 1

disciplinary code. He appealed to be allowed to return to work.

The Greater Manchester Police Authority is to discuss the affair at its next meeting on Monday when it is expected there will be demands from some members to allow Mr Stalker back to his desk.

The immediate fate of the deputy chief constable is now in their hands. If they decide to allow him to end his extended leave and go back to work it is likely the inquiry against him will also finish.

Justice Allott allowed an appeal by Derek Harris, aged 18, by reducing his sentence of 21 months' youth custody to 12 months.

Harris, of Moresdale Lane, Leeds, was sentenced by Judge Pickles on February 18 for burglary and theft.

His counsel, Mr William Hirst, told the Court of Appeal that he had tried to recommend a non-custodial sentence for Harris.

But he had "faced a haranguing" from Judge Pickles, who said the teenager had to learn the hard way that burglaries could not be tolerated.

Lord Justice May said: "It seems to us quite clear that, on about six or seven occasions in the course of Mr Hirst's

setting up a secret police force. Mr Hurd said: "I am deeply worried about what is coming out of the city of Manchester. They seem to be following the worst examples of the worst London boroughs in their anti-police activities."

Turning his attack against Mr Kaufman, Labour MP for Manchester, Gorton, he added: "These are the right honourable gentlemen's followers in the right honourable gentleman's city. What we don't yet know is whether he has the power or the will to do anything about it."

Law Report, page 35

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Urgent recruiting drive will combat shortage of specialist teachers

By Lucy Hodges, Education Correspondent

Urgent consultations on ways to combat the teacher shortage in mathematics and physics and craft, design and technology were announced yesterday by Mr Kenneth Baker, Secretary of State for Education and Science.

Steps taken in recent years to improve the supply of these teachers have failed and a new approach is needed, a draft consultative document published by the Department of Education and Science and the Welsh Office says. Comments are invited by the end of December, and the Government says it will consider proposals.

Pay levels and career prospects are recognized as important factors in recruiting and retaining subject specialists, which is why the Government wants to see these issues reformed in the Acs talks.

Other initiatives being undertaken are the recruitment of extra teachers from:

- People with the right A levels or degrees;
- People with limited qualifications in these subjects;
- Mature people with relevant qualifications or experience, including people transferring from other employment;
- Qualified teachers returning to teaching;
- Serving teachers of other subjects;
- Serving teachers of mathematics and physics or craft, design and technology who need further training to become as effective as their colleagues.

Last year recruitment to teacher training in mathematics and physics, and craft, design and technology reached only about two-thirds of the target.

Applications suggest a further fall in recruitment this September, with teacher training colleges having to take students "whose chances of success may be questionable", the document says.

Although figures for unfilled posts are not very high, tuition in mathematics and physics and craft, design and technology is often given by inadequately qualified teachers, so there is a hidden shortage as well.

A survey in 1984 showed that 13 per cent of mathematics and 17 per cent of physics lessons were taught by teachers without degrees in the subject.

The figures are worse if subsidiary higher education

studies are excluded, only 45 per cent of mathematics and 57 per cent of physics lessons were taught by teachers with main qualifications in these subjects.

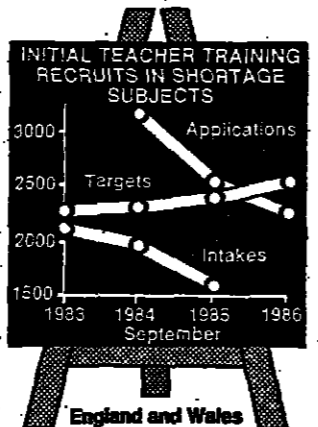
If fewer pupils take these subjects in public examinations, this will affect numbers going on to degree courses, and eventually finding their way into teaching.

The fall in pupil numbers is unlikely to help because so many serving teachers in the shortage subjects are leaving.

There was a marked increase in the loss of mathematics and physics graduates in 1984-5 and again in 1985-6. In the last year the rate of loss of mathematics graduates reached 10 per cent. Population changes in the next decade will exacerbate the problems because the proportion of young people entering the employment market will be shrinking, at a time when the secondary school population, and therefore teacher demand, will be rising.

Among the initiatives is a government plan to set up with the local authorities a national network to provide information and advice on teaching as a career, with a particular focus on students whose expertise is in short supply in schools.

The document asks whether teacher trainees in the shortage subjects might receive more in the way of a grant than other trainees. At present they receive a bursary of £1,200 in addition to the ordinary grant.



Sex book for young upsets MP

By Mark Dowd

Many adults still have only a vague understanding of basic sex education, a family doctor claimed yesterday at the launch of his book, *Growing Up*.

Dr James Docherty's book is aimed at 11 to 15-year-olds and their parents, and contains three-dimensional illustrations of the internal sex organs, and sequences showing coitus and conception.

It has been checked and approved by the Royal Society of Medicine, but Mr Harry Greenwood, Conservative MP for Ealing North, has described the publication as a "hard-core pornographic magazine".

In response, Dr Docherty said: "In this book, sex is set in an ethical and moral context, reiterating the importance of the non-physical aspects of a relationship. It is not merely a manual of sex." *Growing Up: a guide for children and parents* (Modus Books, £9.95 and £5.95).

College calls for reprieve on funds

By Our Education Correspondent

Birkbeck College in London, which faces an uncertain future because of a 30 per cent cut in funding during the next four years, is preparing a detailed document to defend itself.

The paper will be considered at a meeting of the University Grants Committee on July 10, at which the committee will review its new formula for funding part-time students at half the cost of full-timers.

Birkbeck, where all students are part-time, working during the day and studying at night, stands to lose more than £2 million.

The document being drawn up for the committee aims to show the special nature of Birkbeck in the university system. It is the only university college in the country concentrating entirely on teaching part-timers, and believes that it should therefore be funded adequately. The Government gives high priority

to the education of mature students.

Professor Roderick Flood, head of Birkbeck's history department, said that the document would demonstrate the efficiency with which the college does its work.

"Birkbeck is special and therefore has to be treated specially rather than in conjunction with all other kinds of part-time student," he said. "Birkbeck is a very special part of the university system and the UGC has been funding that special role for a long time."

In the past London University had been funding Birkbeck at the rate of 0.8 of that for full-time students.

Professor Flood said: "We want an appropriate evaluation of the costs. Students at Birkbeck have been collecting signatures for a petition, and the staff has passed a motion deploring the committee's decision." *Leading article, page 17*



The Queen seeing off the first runners from the forecourt of Buckingham Palace yesterday in the relay race which will carry her message for the opening ceremony of the Commonwealth Games through Britain to Edinburgh. She handed the message, in a hollow baton of sterling silver set with Scottish gemstones, to David Moorcroft (second from right), the 5,000 metres champion at the 1982 Games, which were held in Brisbane, Australia. He was flanked by Debbie Flintoff, Australian 400 metres hurdles champion in the 1982 Games, and David Hemery, Olympic 400 metres hurdles champion in 1968. Nearly 1,000 club athletes and several thousand schoolchildren will run distances averaging 1.5 miles each in the 1,500-mile relay. Royal Mail staff and vehicles will support the runners, and the Royal Mail's Datapost courier service will fly the Queen's message to the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. Photograph: Tim Bishop.

'Fighting spirit' treatment for cancer

By Thomson Prentice Science Correspondent

Cancer patients are to be encouraged to fight for their lives and taught how to cope with the psychological impact of the disease, in a £1 million project announced yesterday.

Doctors, nurses and other health care workers will also be offered training in giving emotional support to cancer victims and their families.

Studies are to be carried out to assess whether a "fighting spirit" attitude helps patients with incurable forms of cancer to live longer than those who adopt a fatalistic approach to their illness.

The Cancer Research Campaign, which funds about a third of all British research into the disease, is setting up two centres, in London and Manchester, to investigate psychological distress among patients and to develop therapies to relieve it.

Among the 20,000 women who develop breast cancer every year, 40 per cent may be so emotionally affected that they require psychiatric help, Professor Tim McElwain, head of the section of medicine at the Institute of Cancer Research, said.

"Progress in treatment is not enough. People must be restored to a full emotional life as well," he said.

Dr Steven Greer, director of the new centre at the Royal Marsden Hospital, London, said there was some evidence that a "fighting spirit" could affect patients' survival.

Among a small group of women with breast cancer who have been studied, 75 per cent of those who displayed such a determined attitude, were still alive five years later, compared with 35 per cent whose attitude was of either stoic acceptance or hopelessness.

"We want to try to reinforce those positive attitudes and to try to encourage others to adopt them in the hope that this might just improve their duration of survival," Dr Greer said.

Dr Peter Maguire, director of the new centre at the Christie Hospital, Manchester, said one of their biggest problems was the attitude of some doctors and nurses, who, because they were dedicated and concerned, found it difficult to get close to their patients and to understand their worries.

Club set to foil tennis forgeries

By John Goodbody Sports News Correspondent

Wimbledon has secretly changed the printing of centre court tickets to try to prevent forgeries.

Last year counterfeit tickets circulated at Wimbledon with more than 20 people on some days being affected.

The All England Club said yesterday: "We recognize that we have been extremely fortunate in the past, but last year we suffered. We have now tightened up by altering the design."

The forgeries were so expert that they deceived many officials. Some spectators arrived at their seats to find people already occupying them.

With £18 seats for the men's final on July 6 already reaching £400 on the black market outside the ground, there is an immense temptation for tickets to be forged.

"We urge people not to buy tickets from touts. They bought the forgeries last year and they and a few members of the public suffered," the club said.

One company, Earlmount, which sold hospitality packages for the fortnight including centre court tickets, went into receivership owing £100,000. Mr Steven Shalson, its director, blamed the forgeries.

Last year police believed that thousands of counterfeit tickets were destroyed after they had discovered that they had been printed. *Match report, page 40*

Call for random breath test

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

Doctors yesterday called for random breath testing outside public houses and restaurants to cut the death toll of drinking and driving.

By a large majority, the British Medical Association backed the call for breath tests to be used where they would have most effect.

Dr John Marks, chairman of the BMA's council said he wanted the police "to sit outside my local pub or restaurant to catch chaps who are going to drive far in excess of the legal limit."

"We want the police to have the power to sit quietly outside to stop people who are going to drive, at any time of day, before they finish up either putting themselves or someone else in hospital."

Dr Myer Goldman, a consultant radiologist from Liverpool, said: "Any accident and emergency doctor will not need reminding of the increase in accidents after 11pm on Friday and Saturday nights."

BMA conference

Call for random breath test

Accidents caused by alcohol were the biggest single cause of death in people aged under 25. "This carnage is a scandal and it is largely preventable", he said.

Only one in 250 drivers who do drink are caught, he said. "No wonder most decide to take a chance."

When the breath test was first introduced there had been a drop in drink-driving offences, but the numbers have crept up again.

People argued that random tests were an infringement of liberty. But "the liberty to drink and hurrie a ton of metal along the road at 70mph can no longer be tolerated", he told the association conference in Scarborough.

The conference also called for the Government to ban the sale of Skoal Bandit, the fruit and mint flavoured "tobacco tea-bags" that can cause oral cancer. And for an end to the allowance of duty-free cigarettes given to some Royal Navy personnel.

The issue would have to be discussed and agreed openly.

Nuclear choice defined

The association is to study the criteria for treating patients after a nuclear attack.

Doctors told the meeting that normal ethical considerations would have to be abandoned.

Diabetics and others on long-term treatment would probably have to be denied it, as might young children, the elderly and others, to preserve people with skills crucial to survival.

Dr John Dawson, head of the association's professional division, said that after a nuclear attack "you would have to consider who you are going to save; who would be valuable in the long term".

The issue would have to be discussed and agreed openly.

Mersey barrage Tidal power switch-on plan in 1996

By Peter Daveport and Derek Harris

Plans to build a £450 million barrage across the river Mersey were unveiled yesterday along with the prospect of tidal-powered electricity by 1996.

The Mersey Barrage Company, a consortium of 17 companies and financial institutions, has begun a two-year feasibility study into the project.

The study, which will cost £800,000, will examine two suggested sites for the barrage, one across the mouth of the river from New Brighton to Liverpool and the second, further upstream, from Rock Ferry to Liverpool.

The barrage would take 10 years to complete, provide 3,000 jobs in an area of high unemployment and benefit the tourist industry by creating a huge lake to be used for water sports.

The barrage, which will be the first in this country, would harness the tidal power of the Mersey to generate 0.05 per cent of the electricity demand of England and Wales, worth £1 million a week.

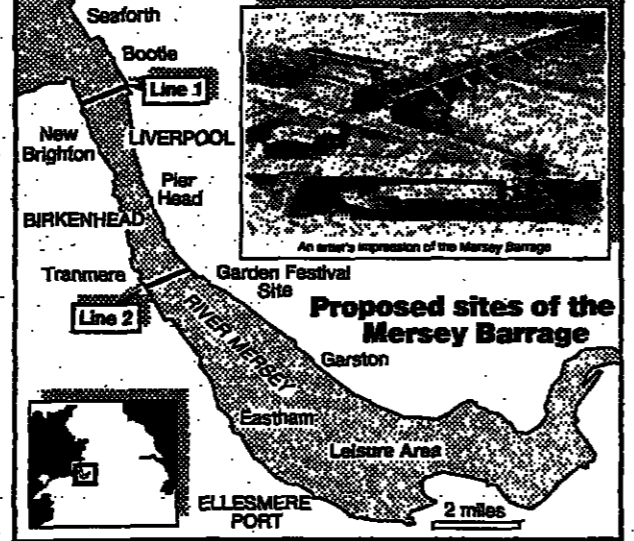
The Mersey's tidal movements of 30 to 36 ft are among the greatest in the world.

Mr Peter Walker, Secretary of State for Energy, said that tidal power had its problems because its variable nature meant it would not necessarily coincide with peak electricity demands. But he estimated that it could provide up to 8 per cent of present electricity demand.

The company is under the chairmanship of Mr Desmond Pither, who is chief executive of Littlewoods.

Mr Pither said: "It is a capital programme that will make money. The expectation is for a return on investment of 8 per cent." The actual rate of return will depend crucially on oil prices when the project becomes operational, he said.

It is expected to take 25 years to cover the cost of the project.



Proposed sites of the Mersey Barrage

The barrage could bring a whole new dimension to employment prospects in the area. Mr Pither said. Port facilities would become more attractive with deep-water berths readily able to take the largest ships, such as tankers, and offering a time-saving with motorway connections to key parts of the country.

Recreational use of the lake, which would be created upriver of the barrage, would be enhanced by present work on reducing pollution in the river. Mr Pither said.

A barrage was first suggested seriously in 1980 but yesterday's announcement is the first big step towards realizing the project.

The Department of Energy is already supporting exploration of the possibilities of a tidal barrage on the Severn estuary. But it is unlikely to be completed before the end of the century, Mr Walker said. The maximum energy output was likely to be the equivalent of 5 per cent of Britain's current electricity demand, he added.

Southern Tidal Power Group, a consortium of construction and engineering interests, has shared the cost of a feasibility study which has now gone to Mr Walker for consideration.

The only other scheme being actively pursued locally is for a barrage at Cardiff harbour.

While Mr Walker pointed out that tidal power was unable to provide a consistent supply, the proponents of this source of energy have argued that this can to some extent be overcome if barrages were sited in a number of places around Britain to take advantage of different tides.

Swords will not be worn, Mr Gieve decrees

By Alan Hamilton

The class of person being invited to next month's royal wedding in Westminster Abbey is the class of person who would have been schooled almost from birth to avoid such sartorial solecisms as wearing a sword while sitting in a church pew. Help is at hand, however, for those few who might be uncertain of the finer points of the day's dress.

Mr Robert Gieve, vice-chairman of Gieves and Hawkes, tailors to the Royal Navy and therefore to Prince Andrew, yesterday announced an advisory service for both ladies and gentlemen anxious not to appear in the abbey unsuitably attired.

Mr Gieve conceded that, of about 1,700 guests expected at the union of the Prince and Miss Sarah Ferguson, perhaps not more than 2 per cent would need his advice.

Guests, unless they are immediate family or ushers, should eschew the brittonhole. Officers, unless they are on duty as attendants or ushers, should not wear their swords; there would be an unholly clatter from the body of the kirk if they did.

Brocade waistcoats are regarded as *de trop*, and shirts should sport cufflinks rather than buttons at the wrist. For ladies, an equal *finix pas* would be to arrive without gloves, or to wear a broad-brimmed hat.

Black or Ascot grey morning coats are equally acceptable for men. But medal ribbons would not normally be worn on such an occasion. Overall, Mr Gieve's guidelines counsel moderation for ladies and an absence of over-fussy accoutrements, such as fancy shoes, for men.

"The wedding is the bride's day; it is not like Ascot where people are trying to catch the eye," Mr Gieve said yesterday.

Guests may find Mr Gieve's advice entirely unnecessary; the invitations state quite plainly that lounge suits are perfectly acceptable.

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Concerted action best way forward

SOUTH AFRICA

Mandatory and comprehensive sanctions would be disastrous for Britain and for relationships with South Africa, Mr John Biffen, the Lord Privy Seal and Leader of the Commons, told Mr Neil Kinnock, the Leader of the Opposition, during noisy Commons questions when Mr Biffen stood in for Mrs Thatcher, who is attending the European Council in The Hague.

The Government's decision to meet Mr Oliver Tambo, President of the African National Congress, was announced, he said. The Government's determination to have a forward policy on the issue, but it must always be related to effectiveness of cooperation with Britain's allies.

Mr Kinnock called for intensified pressure by the Government on South Africa in the light of the South African Government's reaction to the meeting with Mr Tambo.

Referring to the crisis, Mr Stanley Thorne (Preston, Lab) said: He will have seen the statement of the European Persons' Group which says that unless there are economic measures taken against South Africa, the cost will be counted in millions of lives. What is the Government going to do about that catastrophe?

Mr Biffen: Initially we shall discuss this matter with our allies. That is precisely what is happening in The Hague. We shall determine a policy which will take account not only of our desire for peaceful change in South Africa, but also of national interests.

Mr William Cash (Stafford, C): In a radio broadcast last week, a member of the South African parliament, an Indian, said the people who had given that particular report should have

taken careful note of the effect it stands in total contrast to what he constantly reaffirms, which is his commitment to comprehensive and mandatory sanctions, which we believe will be disastrous for this country and disastrous for relationships with South Africa.

Mr Kinnock: I am prepared to accept that he at least wants to see an end to apartheid. Does he think the steps taken by the Government so far have been effective?

Mr Biffen: The test of effectiveness is the way in which we can cooperate with all others engaged in this enterprise.

Mr Kinnock: If he and the Government want these sanctions to apply to all, why did the Government veto mandatory sanctions at the United Nations last week?

Mr Biffen: We should move in close cooperation with our allies.

Mr John Carlisle (Luton North, C): Would he agree that peaceful reform in South Africa is far more likely to take place in conditions of full employment and economic prosperity than devastation and destruction as proposed by the Opposition?

Would he give a message to the Prime Minister in The Hague - that this Government should be thinking of positive measures to increase investment in South Africa and the influence of British companies in that country so that this initiative will be received by the South African government in the way of helping them rather than hindering them towards that reform?

Mr Biffen: The Minister of State at the Foreign Office (Mrs Lynda Chalker) made quite clear the terms under which discussions took place with Mr Tambo. I think they underline this Government's determination to have a forward policy in these matters, but one which above all will always be related to the test of effectiveness within which we can cooperate with other colleagues in Western Europe, North America and Japan.

This is a realistic policy and stands in total contrast to what he constantly reaffirms, which is his commitment to comprehensive and mandatory sanctions, which we believe will be disastrous for this country and disastrous for relationships with South Africa.

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Mr Biffen: I think the initial task of the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary at The Hague is to concert a policy in conjunction with our colleagues that can be put on an effective basis and which will have clear and determinable objectives.

Increasing readiness to say no to heroin

HOUSE OF LORDS

There are early signs of success in the Government's anti-heroin campaign, Lady Hooper, the Government spokesman, said during question time in the House of Lords.

Asked about progress of the two-year campaign she said: The anti-heroin campaign is being independently evaluated by two companies, one using a quantitative survey of 700 young people and the other interviewing small groups in depth.

The evaluation has indicated that the campaign has increased young people's resistance to heroin.

Lord Rodney (C): The solution is ultimately to eliminate the demand for drugs and for the Government to continue with this campaign to ensure that these encouraging results continue.

Lady Hooper: The evaluation provides evidence that the percentage of young people who said they would reject an offer of heroin increased from 74 per cent to 83 per cent during the first year of the campaign.

There has also been an increased awareness of using heroin. The campaign will definitely continue.

Concern about anti-police stance

MANCHESTER

Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, said at question time in the Commons that he was deeply worried about Manchester City Council which seemed to be following the example of the worst London boroughs in its anti-police activities.

Criticizing Mr Gerald Kaufman (Manchester, Lab), the chief Opposition spokesman on home affairs, he said: "These are his supporters in his constituency. What we do not yet know is whether he has the power or the will to do anything about it."

He had earlier said that he was encouraged by the increasing support for the Government's initiative in crime prevention.

On Monday (he continued) I had the opportunity of an latest seminar to discuss the further development of that policy with a wide range of practical people representing industries and commerce, central and local government, police, education and others.

Mr Neil Hamilton (Tatton, C), who began the exchanges, asked Mr Hurd whether he had received representations on this subject from Manchester City Council.

The strategy for crime prevention (he went on) which that committee set up, supported by Mr Kaufman, carries out and the Police Committee Support Unit, the sole purpose of which seems to be attacking and undermining the police and the authority, nevertheless to an outsider there appears to be a degree of character assassination.

It was essential, if any disciplinary charges were to be formulated rapidly and the necessary procedure take place or, alternatively, that Mr Stalker should be rapidly restored to his position.

Earlier, Mr Alexander Carlisle (Montgomery, L) said clear-cut rates for crime were connected with wholehearted commitment by senior officers - such as that shown by Mr John Stalker.

Mr Stalker, that commitment, Mr Carlisle, he recommended the prosecution of officers in the Royal Ulster Constabulary for conspiracy to pervert the course of justice. Why had Mr Stalker been suspended?

Mr Hurd: He was surprised that Mr Carlisle had got onto that.

Parliament had taken care in

Ex-Home Office minister complains of Stalker character assassination

ALLEGATIONS

The investigation into disciplinary allegations against Mr John Stalker, Deputy Chief Constable of Greater Manchester, had been set in hand by a decision of the Greater Manchester Police Authority and had been placed under the supervision of the independent police complaints authority, and it was they and now Mr Colin Sampson, Chief Constable of West Yorkshire, to whom they had entrusted the investigation, who had the responsibility under the law, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, said during Commons questions.

Mr Mark Carlisle (Warrington South, C), a former Minister of State at the Home Office, had said there appeared to be a degree of character assassination of Mr Stalker.

Mr Stalker was, after disciplinary allegations, recently removed as head of the inquiry into the Royal Ulster Constabulary's alleged shoot-to-kill policy. Mr Stalker is on extended leave. Mr Sampson has also replaced Mr Stalker as head of the inquiry.

Mr Hurd agreed for reasons given by Mr Carlisle and others, that the sooner this matter could be cleared up under the procedures laid down by Parliament, the better it would be for all concerned.

Mr Carlisle had said: While clearly any allegation against a senior officer is a matter which must be taken seriously and investigated by the police complaints authority, nevertheless to an outsider there appears to be a degree of character assassination.

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Mr Hurd: He was surprised that Mr Carlisle had got onto that.

Parliament had taken care in

establishing procedures and responsibilities for investigating allegations against police - senior officers or otherwise - and such allegations ought to be seriously examined.

But Parliament had not given the Home Secretary or any Home Office officials any power to intervene in those procedures. He would have no responsibilities over them unless or until he was required to decide on appeals against decisions made in respect of what was a police disciplinary offence.

Parliament had established an independent police complaints authority to investigate cases such as this.

In this case (he said) I hope the procedures will be operated thoroughly and quickly so that the matter can be cleared up.

Mr Cecil Franks (Barrow and Furness, C) said that at that moment, the Chief Constable of West Yorkshire was meeting the police complaints authority regarding Mr Stalker.

In the interests of natural justice (he said) some statement of some kind should be made by the authority later today.

Mr Hurd said that in view of the responsibility that he might have as the appropriate officer, he had better repeat that he hoped the procedures laid down in these matters by Parliament would be operated thoroughly and quickly.

Later, during business questions, Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party, asked Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House, if he would have words with the Attorney General, the Home Secretary and the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland and arrange for a statement next week on the Stalker case.

Even before completion of that, there were matters upon

which MPs were entitled to answer.

Who was responsible for the decision to take Mr Stalker off the inquiry?

Would Mr Stalker's work and recommendations be included in the final report?

Since Mr Stalker and Mr Kevin Taylor (the Manchester businessman who is said to be a friend of Mr Stalker's) had been under investigation for some weeks and would they not be prosecuted, or have their names cleared?

Mr Robert Kilroy-Gibb (Knowsley, North, Lab) said MPs should have a chance to discuss this disgraceful public trial, which, in his view, had been given currency and Mr Stalker had received an opportunity to defend himself and state his case.

Mr Stalker was entitled to an impartial and independent investigation and, if necessary, a fair trial.

Mr Seamus Mallon (Newry and Armagh, SDLP) said he had tried three times to raise the Stalker affair in the Commons. There was grave concern in Northern Ireland over Mr Stalker's removal from the RUC inquiry that he had been carrying out so professionally.

If such a thing had happened with an inquiry into police matters in Greater London or Greater Manchester, there would have been a ministerial statement long, long before now.

(Cheers)

Mr Franks called it a "most bizarre situation". Once the inquiry had been completed and he hoped that would be soon - there should be a debate on the circumstances surrounding the affair.

Mr Patrick Duffy (Sheffield, Athercliffe, Lab) referred to the allegations of the shoot-to-kill policy of the forces in Northern Ireland, as well as covert cross-border incursions into the Irish Republic.

These were matters of grave concern, not only in Dublin, but here also. They were likely to be discussed by Mrs Thatcher and the Irish Prime Minister (De FitzGerald) in the next day or so.

MPs should be able to debate how the Government allowed this inquiry to become involved in fumbleings, misinformation and murkiness.

Mr Biffen said he was not responsible for the matter, as it was now before an inquiry.

The inquiry also inhibited what the Home Secretary might do. But he would make sure that Mr Hurd knew about what had been said.

Should the Davids sit side by side?

ALLIANCE

Dr David Owen, Leader of the Social Democrats, and Mr David Steel, Leader of the Liberal Party, amid loud interruptions, protested in the Commons that Alliance policy on South Africa had been distorted by Mr John Biffen, Leader of the House, who was replying to questions in the absence of the Prime Minister.

Mrs Thatcher was at The Hague for the European summit.

There had been several questions about South Africa put to Mr Biffen, notably by Mr Neil Kinnock, Leader of the Opposition. However, Dr Owen chose to put a question about the number of people living at or below supplementary benefit level, representing, he maintained, a 50 per cent increase since the Government took office.

Before replying on the point, Mr Biffen commented: Could I say how much I enjoyed almost all of his remarks on the radio this morning in relation to South Africa which clearly put him with us, if not with the Liberal Party. (Laughter)

After Dr Owen, amid tremendous noise, had put points of order, the Speaker (Mr Bernard Weatherill) commented that he was responsible in any way for the content of answers.

He added to prolonged cheers by Conservative and Labour MPs: We frequently hear things in this House that we do not

like. That is what democracy is all about.

After Mr Steel had complained that the Prime Minister on Tuesday and the Leader of the House that day had distorted the policy, Dr Owen and himself had been pursuing on South Africa, Mrs Isa Gow (Eastbourne, C) weighed in with reactions that led to uproarious laughter.

below the gateway on the Opposition side of the House and Dr Owen sits on the front bench below the gateway.]

"In raising the issue at the end of question time, Dr Owen said: If Mr Biffen wishes to associate with the policy of the Liberals and Social Democrats of wishing to support a ban on new investment in South Africa, a ban on direct air flights ...

Mr Hurd: I agree. Now that Mr Kaufman has been converted to crime prevention I hope he will go and tell his supporters or his constituents in the City Council what it is all about. Instead of seeking to find imaginary difficulties they should set about encouraging people to join in these schemes.

Mr Kaufman: Any claim that this Government's crime prevention strategy could only come from a Home Secretary who is a writer of imaginative fiction. With four million serious crimes last year in Great Britain the Government's law and order policy has completely collapsed.

These crime prevention seminars which the Government holds in Downing Street are meaningless gimmicks that are almost completely non-productive. When is the Government going to take a serious nature to bringing the crime level down?

Mr Hurd: If he thinks that the kind of measures we were discussing on Monday are gimmicks he is a long way from reality.

Dr Owen: If Mr Biffen wishes to associate with our policy surely he should do so directly and not abuse question time by answering a question on supplementary benefit and the five million people living at or below the poverty line.

You would not allow anyone else in this House to answer a question in the way Mr Biffen sought to do that was an abuse of question time and should not be allowed.

There has been an abuse of question time procedure by the Leader of the House. If anyone else had sought to answer a question which had not been put he would have been pulled up by you.

If Mr Biffen wishes to dissociate himself from the policy of his party he should do it in another way.

The Speaker: He knows this was an open question and I am not responsible in any way for the content of answers. We frequently hear things in this House that we do not like. That is what democracy is all about. (Cheers and laughter)

Dr Owen's question was: Does Mr Biffen believe that more than 9 million people currently living at or below the supplementary benefit level appreciate this Government's policies and what is he going to do about it since there has been a 50 per cent increase since the Government took office?

Mr Biffen: It seems to me that the Speaker's question should be taken alongside the fact that under this Government supplementary benefit has increased.

Royal Assent

The following Acts received the Royal Assent: Drainage Rates (Disabled Persons); Corneal Tissue; British Shipbuilders (Borrowing Powers); Horticultural Producers' Armed Forces; Civil Protection in Peacetime; Safety at Sea; Health Service Joint Consultative Committees (Access to Information); and Land Registration.

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Tough moves against fraud in new Bill

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

The Government is to bring in legislation in the next session of Parliament to tighten the law against fraud, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, made clear during questions in the Commons.

He said that the report of the committee on fraud trials under Lord Roskill provided an excellent basis for legislation and the Home Office was considering the many recommendations including those affecting the investigation of fraud.

Mr David Clelland (Type Bridge, Lab), who opened the exchanges, asked why so much emphasis was placed on social security frauds and so little on tax frauds. For every one person charged with tax fraud, 30 were charged with social security fraud, he said. This was a further

indication that the Government had one rule for the rich and one for the poor.

Mr Hurd rejected the charge.

If Mr Clelland would put a question to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, he said, he would find out how much effort the Inland Revenue was putting into tax fraud.

Mr Ivan Lawrence (Burton, C) said there was little or no support for non-jury trials in Lord Roskill's report.

Mr Hurd said that on extradition he had announced that the Government intended to act.

As for non-jury trials, this was one of the tricky matters under consideration.

Parliament today

Commons (9.30): European Communities (Amendment) Bill, continuation of committee stage.

Lords (11): Dockyard Services Bill, report stage.

Du Cann warning on EEC Bill

SOVEREIGNTY

Any attempt to suggest that the European Communities (Amendment) Bill was a minor matter merely to facilitate the workings of the Common Market would be a confidence trick, Sir Edward de Ciampi (Taunton, C) said in the Commons when MPs began discussing further amendments during the resumed committee stage of the legislation.

He said the Bill's title was misleading and gave effect to an international agreement, the Single European Act. That Act was a new treaty, at least equal in significance to the original treaty which set up the EEC, the Rome Treaty.

That measure (he said) is of supreme constitutional importance. It is a huge step towards the creation of a European super state and a huge step towards the creation of a European political union. The astounding thing, the remarkable thing, is that this Single European Act has never been discussed in either House of the British Parliament.

The Bill amends the European Communities Act 1972 by including in the Community Treaties those parts of the Single European Act signed at Luxembourg and The Hague in February which relate to the European Communities.

Need to help young people get work

WAGES BILL

If young people were priced into work by removal of the protection of the wages councils would only be until they became adult when they would be dismissed and replaced by another young person, Lord McCarty (Lab) said during the resumed committee stage in the House of Lords of the Wages Bill.

He was moving an amendment, later rejected by 110 votes to 84 - Government majority, 26, which would have retained wages councils for young people until they were 21. Lord McCarty said the Government had not been prepared to make any estimate of the number of jobs for young people that would be created by the removal of regulation and it even accepted that some of those jobs would be at the expense of adults.

The Government's argument were dangerous, unjust, unsubstantiated, implausible, tenuous and would lead to the exploitation of a weakly-unionized and vulnerable group of workers.

Lord Rochester (L) said there was a case for wages councils to be able to produce graduated scales of pay for the 18-21 age group. The Government's proposals would enable a young person to get their first foot on the employment ladder but only so long as they were cheaper to employ than an adult.

Lord Sainsbury (SDF) said evidence had been produced to support the Government's claim that wages councils hindered job creation and caused unemployment.

Lord Trefgarne, the Government spokesman, said all the pay protection in the world was worthless if a young person could not get a job because it was illegal to hire him at the wage he was prepared to accept.

The Government accepted that some of the jobs created would be at the expense of adults, but the overriding concern was to help young people get access to the first rung of the employment ladder.

Peacock report and reaction next week

FUTURE OF BBC

The Peacock Committee report on the future financing of the BBC and the Government's initial response to it are to be published next week, Mr Douglas Hurd, the Home Secretary, indicated during Commons question time exchanges.

He predicted there would be wide discussion about it.

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Minister gives pledge to sell off all the state-owned industries

By Michael Horsnell

A blanket commitment to sell all state-owned industries is given today by Mr John Moore who, until last month, was the minister responsible for the Government's privatization programme.

Mr Moore, now Secretary of State for Transport and the newest recruit to the Cabinet, says that by the end of next year the Government will have nearly halved state-ownership of industry since it came to power in 1979.

In a statement on privatization, published by the free enterprise organization, Aims of Industry, Mr Moore says: "It is already clear to me who mainly prospers through privatization. The shareholders of the companies we have sold prosper, and most of all the customers and the whole nation prosper."

That is why privatization in the United Kingdom has been such a success and why the programme will continue until all state-owned commercial industries are returned to where they belong — to the private sector.

Mr Moore describes the programme as "one of the most extraordinary political and economic transformations that has taken place in the last 15 years."

When the Conservatives came to power the proportion of industry controlled by the State was at its highest, accounting for about 10 per cent of Britain's gross domestic product, a seventh of total investment in the economy and about 10 per cent of the retail price index.

The industries employed about 1.5 million people, dominating the transport, energy, communications, steel and shipbuilding sectors of the economy.

"In 1979 to halve the amount of state ownership and double the number of shareholders within the space of two parliaments seemed an impossible task", Mr Moore says.

To date, more than 350,000 employees have obtained shares through privatization in the companies employing them and privatization has been a big factor in doubling the number of shareholders in the United Kingdom.

The British Telecom sale alone is thought to have attracted about a million people who had never owned shares before.

"Without this approach I do not believe that privatization would have been so quickly accepted as an irreversibly beneficial process", Mr Moore says.

He points out that privatization has meant: Profits have doubled at British Aerospace in the five years since privatization; increased sevenfold at National Freight where the value of employee shares in the consortium has gone up twenty-sevenfold, and increased Jaguar car sales from 3,000 to 18,000 between 1981 and 1984 in the United States where customer satisfaction has risen from 20 per cent to 90 per cent.

The immediate future programme of nationalization includes British Gas, British Airways, the National Bus Company, the British Airports Authority, Rolls-Royce and the water authorities in England and Wales.

Privatization in the United Kingdom by John Moore (Aims of Industry, £2.20).



Mrs Angela Rumbold fitting a hat box at the London Wildlife Trust site at the Gunnersbury Triangle, Chiswick, yesterday. The Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for the Environment visited the site during national bat week. The triangle was saved as a wildlife site after a campaign by the trust's local members (Photograph: Peter Triermer).

Shortage of housing hits jobs in South

Efforts to provide employment in the South-east are being frustrated by planning constraints which restrict the supply of housing, the House-Builders Federation says today. Its conclusions come after a report it commissioned from the Institute of Management Studies.

It states that the clear message from the report, *Housing Constraints in the Mid-Berkshire Labour Market*, is that hopes of reducing unemployment in the South-east, and so in the country as a whole, could be dashed because of restrictions on the supply of housing.

Mr Tristram Reynolds, for the federation, said: "Mid-Berkshire is representative of many similar areas in the South-east, like Gatwick, where it is now clear that employment which could be created just is not, because firms cannot find the right people. They cannot find these people because there is not enough of the right kind of housing."

The main findings of the report, commissioned to support the federation's submission to the Berkshire structure plan inquiry, show that employers are finding it increasingly difficult to recruit for a wide range of skilled craft, technical and professional occupations.

Some organizations consulted reported that housing constraints were a key impediment to their attempts to overcome a limited local supply of skilled manual personnel by recruiting over longer distances.

The most common difficulty was the high cost of housing.

The federation has argued that the shortage of land in the South-east means that the price of available land, and therefore of the houses built on it, is sometimes prohibitive.

Paper to pay Coe over libel

Sebastian Coe, the Olympic gold medalist, was awarded substantial libel damages in the High Court yesterday over alleged revelations by a former girl friend.

The athlete, aged 29, who has held world records at four distances from 800 metres to a mile, was said to have suffered a "deeply offensive and libellous attack" in a series of articles in *The Sun* newspaper in October 1984.

Mr Richard Walker, for Mr Coe, told Mr Justice Michael Davies that the articles, based on interviews given by the former girl friend, were a "sensationalized attack upon his character and personality."

He said that there were inaccuracies and untruths in the allegations that "went to the root of his personal conduct and his behaviour towards his family, friends and fellow athletes."

News Group Newspapers Ltd, the newspaper's publishers, now recognized that the allegations were entirely without foundation, and expressed their sincere apologies to Mr Coe.

They agreed to pay him the undisclosed damages and all his legal costs. Mr Coe is to give the money to charity.

Magee charges put on file

Patrick Magee, sentenced earlier this week to a minimum of 35 years' imprisonment for the Brighton bombing, is not to face trial on charges of taking part in a Provisional IRA bombing campaign in London in 1978-79, it was stated at the Central Criminal Court yesterday.

Indictments alleging his involvement in this campaign, and in later plans to bomb a public house near Blackpool that was used by soldiers, are to be placed on file.

Mr Roy Amiot, for the prosecution, told Mr Justice Boreham: "We would not seek leave to proceed against him unless it be in the unlikely event of a successful appeal for the main case."

Both indictments involve serious offences but having regard to the convictions against Magee for so many serious offences, and having regard to the fact he is serving eight life sentences with minimum recommendations, the crown takes the view there really is no point in proceeding against him further."

Sir Michael Havers, the Attorney General, had been consulted. Magee was convicted earlier this month on eight counts, including the Brighton bombing and an IRA plan to bomb resorts last summer.

Counsel for Magee said yesterday said that there was no opposition to the outstanding cases being filed.

The 1978-79 London campaign included car bombs outside the YMCA, the Oasis swimming baths and in Windmill Street, and an attack on a gas plant at Greenwich. During Magee's recent trial the court was told that Gerard Tuite, who escaped from Brixton prison, and John McComb had both stood trial for their part in the campaign.

Magee's fingerprints had been found in London flats linked to the campaign, it was stated. During McComb's trial in 1983 the Central Criminal Court was told that the IRA campaign had been called Operation Oxo, and an IRA unit had been set to work in Britain.

McComb, sentenced to 17 years, was alleged to have made a tape-recording of VIPs worthy of attack including the Duke of Gloucester, Mr Michael Heseltine and Lord Carrington.

Peers fight to save our sausages

By Sheila Gunn

Peers are outraged at EEC plans to ban family butchers from making their own sausages.

Under proposals from Brussels, anyone making sausages, pies or other meat products would have to install 18 separate rooms to comply with the new health regulations.

But a Lords' committee will today urge the European Commission to redraft its directive making public health standards common in all the member states.

The European Communities' select committee said it would be impossible for small butchers to comply with the requirements of the draft directive.

"The family-run butcher, who wishes to continue preparing such items as sausages to a time-honoured recipe for a local clientele, should, in our opinion, be allowed to continue to do so."

It warned the EEC Commission to "take into account the interests of the small butcher and his customers as well as the large manufacturing interests."

It said these plans should be scrapped without lowering health standards.

The new standards would hinge on a health certificate which would have to accompany meat products in transit in Europe.

House of Lords Select Committee on the European Communities, 13th & 14th reports on the Internal Market for Foodstuffs and Meat Products (Stationery Office, £9.10).

Catholic Church accused of racism

By Clifford Langley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

Many black Roman Catholics in Britain are becoming increasingly alienated from the church, according to a report commissioned by the Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Basil Hume.

The paper, prepared by a committee of 10 members of the black community, said that it was common for black Catholics to experience racism from the church as an institution, and from individual white Catholics.

Half the committee members were not Catholics, and the most senior churchman among them was Canon Ivor Smith Cameron, a member of the General Synod of the Church of England.

Cardinal Hume announced that he was following the report's recommendation and setting up immediately a steering committee of black Catholics from his diocese to consider the report's other proposals.

Miss Leela Ramdeen, chairman of the committee that wrote the report, who was born in Trinidad, said that racism in society and in the church was an "oppressive reality" about which outspokenness was needed.

"There is a rage for justice in the black community, and the church must take a lead."

The committee recommended a new "pastoral resource centre" for black Catholics in London, in place of the present Caribbean Pastoral Service. It called for a campaign to win more black candidates for the priesthood, and said that practices and attitudes in Catholic schools were regarded by many black Catholics as biased against black people.

Nevertheless, it added, some black Catholics did not experience racism in the church, and there were "pockets of good practice". It said that all Catholics should develop a deeper awareness of the nature and effects of racism.

Cardinal Hume said that the committee's " trenchant criticisms" needed to be balanced by recognition of the devoted and imaginative work of some priests.

"This in no way denies that there are gaps and deficiencies, and much remains to be done," he added.

He proposed extensive consultations with diocesan agencies on the report, particularly about schools, youth work, and recruitment of priests.

He proposed extensive consultations with diocesan agencies on the report, particularly about schools, youth work, and recruitment of priests.

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25-30	1,330	1,330	1,592	4,842	2,132
30-35	1,430	1,430	1,583	4,815	2,111
35-40	1,530	1,530	1,567	4,765	2,082
40-45	1,630	1,630	1,546	4,701	2,041
45-50	1,730	1,730	1,526	4,640	1,912
50-55	1,830	1,830	1,509	4,589	1,870
55-60	1,930	1,930	1,491	4,505	1,822
60-65	2,030	2,030	1,481	4,485	1,800
65-70	2,130	2,130	1,471	4,465	1,780

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20-25	5,499	2,013	4,117	12,521	5,499
25-30	5,476	2,006	4,107	12,491	5,476
30-35	5,445	2,001	4,094	12,420	5,445
35-40	5,388	2,001	4,041	12,290	5,388
40-45	5,319	2,001	3,989	12,132	5,319
45-50	5,250	2,001	3,938	11,976	5,250
50-55	5,196	2,001	3,899	11,857	5,196
55-60	5,137	2,001	3,850	11,649	5,137
60-65	5,107	2,001	3,830	11,649	5,107

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Two face drug charges in Channon case

A tailor was yesterday remanded in custody until July 3 after the death of Olivia Channon, daughter of the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry.

Richard Lundin, aged 31, of Kilburn, north London, is charged with supplying heroin and cocaine and conspiracy to contravene the misuse of drugs Act.

The prosecution told magistrates in Oxford that it will take six weeks to compile the case. There was no application for bail.

In a separate hearing, Paul Dunstan, a pop song writer, was remanded in custody by Oxford magistrates on seven drugs charges, including supplying heroin to Miss Channon.

Mr Dunstan, aged 31, of Ellesmere Road, Willesden, north-west London, was remanded in custody until July 1.

Miss Channon died at a party on June 11 to celebrate the end of final examinations.

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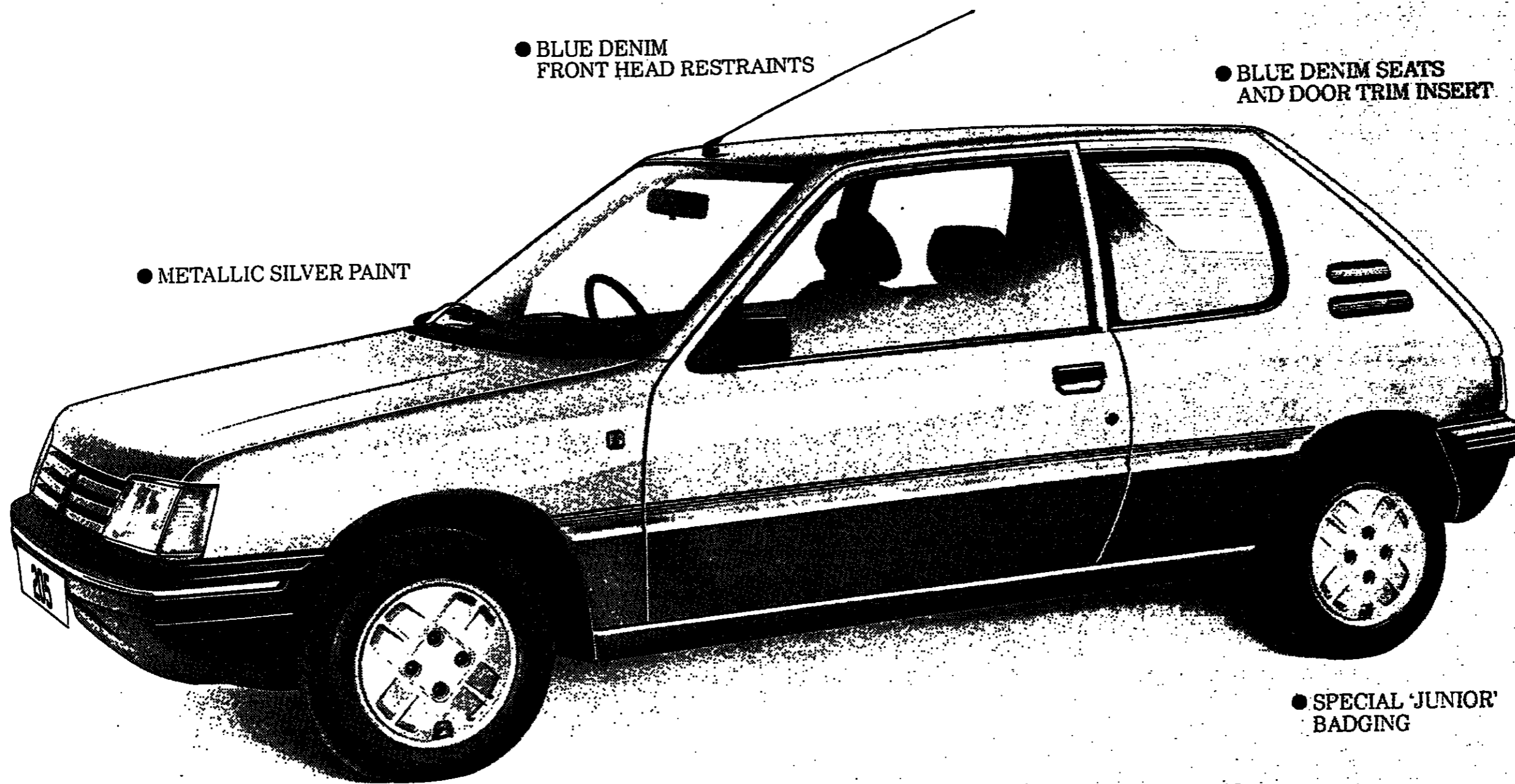
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57/11/86

South African emergency • Official and unofficial reports • Dominant topic at EEC summit

Two versions of church round-up reveal wide gap in reporting events

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

An interesting comparison between the official version of events put out by South Africa's Bureau for Information and the recollection of private citizens has been provided by proceedings in the Cape Town Supreme Court.

Court proceedings, like those in Parliament, are not subject to the state of emergency regulations in force since June 12, which limit what can be published without official approval.

The event in question was the arrest and detention on Sunday, June 15, of the entire congregation of St Nicholas's, an Anglican church in Elsie's River, a mainly Coloured (mixed-race) residential area near Cape Town.

It was not until June 18 that Mr David Steward, the head of the Bureau for Information, admitted that the incident had taken place. He then reported briefly that two whites and 187 Coloureds had been arrested because "it was a political gathering, not a church meeting".

Asked to explain why it had taken so long to release this information, especially as the bureau had received a report of the incident by Monday, June 16, Mr Steward replied: "We are still in the process of perfecting the free flow of information."

According to an affidavit by the rector of the church, the Rev. Devan Laban, the church's youth group had asked him for permission to hold a service in the church on June 15 to commemorate the tenth anniversary of the following day of the start of the Soweto rising.

"I made it quite clear to the group that any service to be held was to be a church service, and was not to be political in any way. When I was given an assurance to this effect, I agreed that the service could be held", Mr Laban said.

The service began at 3pm. He himself had arrived only at 3.50pm, as he had another engagement. A member of the youth group was recounting what had happened on June 16, 1976. This was a straightforward account, Mr Laban said, and contained nothing

subversive or provocative.

A lecturer in Biblical studies from the University of the Western Cape (the main university for Coloureds) had then given a talk.

A candle-lighting ceremony followed, a song was sung, and a few moments of silence observed for those who died in Soweto on June 16, 1976. The rector, according to his account, then gave the benediction, and the congregation began singing "Nkosi Sikelel' Afrika" ("God Bless Africa").

This Xhosa song, composed at the end of the last century, has become identified with the outlawed African National Congress (ANC).

As the congregation was leaving the church, Mr Laban said, the police arrived carrying "either long whip-like instruments or rifles", and began arresting everyone, claiming the service had been

third raid in which South African police detained large numbers of people inside a church on the 10th anniversary of the Soweto uprising.

No service was in progress but the church had been opened for private prayer "for peace in South Africa".

In the preceding days a number of priests in the black township and in nearby Pefferville had been detained.

Two days before, Father Graham Cornelius was arrested, according to two independent reports.

One source said that he was now detained under armed guard in Frere Hospital suffering from facial injuries.

A pastor of the "Coloured" Dutch Reformed Church Mission, the Rev. Eddie Leuw, was detained the day before the anniversary.

"About 120 people, without a minister, were inside the church when the security forces arrived. They arrested everyone."

Reports reaching The Times direct from South Africa indicated that the two new security Bills approved last week by the President's Council were expected to become law at midnight.

Under the Internal Security Amendment Act existing detainees could be kept imprisoned for another 180 days on the authority of a senior police officer.

The TUC said here it had learnt that three prominent trade unionists detained last week had now been released.

They are Mr Phiroso Camay of the Council of Unions in South Africa (Cusa), Ms Dale Tiffin, women's officer of Cusa, and Mr Basher Vally, organizer of the Commercial, Catering and Allied Workers' Union. Two women trade unionists, Ms Chris Bonner and Miss Adrienne Bird, were released the day before.

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Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary (right), being greeted by Mr Leo Tindemans, his Belgian counterpart, at the start yesterday of the EEC summit in The Hague.

European drive to tackle jobs issue

From Richard Owen, The Hague

With divisions over South Africa dominating the opening yesterday of the two-day semi-annual EEC summit in The Hague, European leaders moved towards agreement on less contentious issues.

These include a British-backed move for tackling European unemployment by encouraging initiative and removing constraints in the labour market.

The proposal was presented by Mrs Thatcher, and British officials said it had been warmly welcomed.

The summit also discussed the need for "concerted action" by the EEC in a global context to tackle the distortions which farm subsidies cause to world agricultural trade.

Farm subsidies will be discussed at the new round of GATT (General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade) in mid-September.

The summit reviewed progress on completion of the internal market which, like unemployment, is high on the agenda for Britain's presidency of the EEC Council of Ministers, which begins next week.

The summit noted that half the 300 decisions needed to remove barriers to trade by 1992 should have reached the Council of Ministers by the end of last year, but in fact only 132 proposals had been tabled.

The summit marks the handover of the EEC presidency from Mr Hans van den Broek, the Dutch Foreign Minister, to Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary.

British officials yesterday emphasized the need for continuity in EEC policies rather than dramatic new initiatives.

The drive for enterprise and the reduction of administrative burdens on small and medium-sized businesses is a direct reflection of Mrs Thatcher's own philosophy, although it remains to be seen how far it can be realized during Britain's relatively short presidency, which ends in December.

The summit considered ways of making the EEC more relevant to its citizens.

The summit is intended to give impetus to the "People's Europe" programme, under which the EEC has approved an EEC passport and an EEC flag and proposes to introduce an EEC health card.

But the Commission, represented by M. Jacques Delors, its president, said the EEC had failed to do enough to simplify frontier formalities and promote exchanges.

Blue-chip security at summit casino

From Our Own Correspondent, The Hague

The blackjack and roulette tables at the Kurhaus, Holland's top seaside casino, fell silent yesterday. The Hague's 2,400-strong police force, which normally has little more to deal with at the Kurhaus than the occasional over-excited holiday gambler, moved in en masse to protect the leaders of the EEC, who had chosen it as their accommodation for the two-day EEC summit.

It was, even by the standards of most international meetings nowadays, an almost unprecedented exercise in security.

The Kurhaus Hotel at Scheveningen, a fantasy in stone resembling a cross between Harrods and Brighton's Royal Pavilion, is a Dutch national monument (opened 1885, restored 1979) and the authorities in The Hague close by were anxious that it should not be subjected to the indignity of a terrorist attack just because EEC leaders were using its famous rooms.

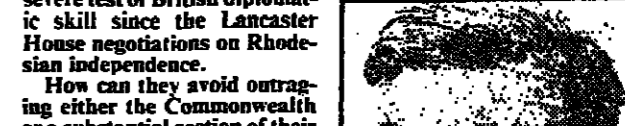
Mrs Thatcher, either as a wide precaution or in a show of British independence, chose to stay at the residence of the British ambassador instead.

The Dutch, normally a calm, tolerant and understated people, appeared to have been seized with last-minute alarm at the thought of an outrage at the summit, which marks the end of The Netherlands' presidency of the EEC and the beginning of Britain's six months in charge.

There are no doubt lessons in the security surrounding the summit for Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe, as they consider the arrangements Britain will have to make.

Security at the Kurhaus was echoed at the ultra-modern Dutch Foreign Ministry in the centre of The Hague, where the formal summit sessions are being held, and at the more modest Ministry of Agriculture next door, where more than 1,000 journalists are gathered to observe the summit discussions on sanctions against South Africa.

COMMENTARY



Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe are facing the most severe test of British diplomatic skill since the Lancaster House negotiations on Rhodesian independence.

How can they avoid outraging either the Commonwealth or a substantial section of their own party in their response to the South African crisis?

Much of the talk about possible withdrawals from the Commonwealth is probably exaggerated. Most of the members have no desire to leave, no matter how angry they may be with Britain.

But some of them could get themselves in the position where they had threatened to march out so loudly that they had no alternative.

In any case, there will undoubtedly be a great deal of indignation at the mini-Commonwealth Conference in London early in August if it is felt that Britain is still refusing to take effective action. This indignation could reach a point where British interests were hurt in a number of countries.

So it would be to Britain's advantage to do enough about South Africa to assuage such feelings. I still do not believe that economic sanctions would be a good way of improving conditions in South Africa.

But Britain owes President Botha no political debts and I see no reason why this country should damage its national interest by clambering into the last ditch alongside him.

er measures the Community had imposed that would be ideal for the British Government.

Perhaps that would be expected too much. But it would be important for Mrs Thatcher that any additional steps taken by the Commonwealth should also not require legislation by Parliament.

By the time the Commonwealth leaders begin their proceedings on August 1 the Government will have taken care to see that the parliamentary recess has started.

If I were an MP I would for once be confident that I could book my holiday for the beginning of August. Then when Parliament reassembles in the autumn policy towards South Africa may no longer be such a hot issue, provided that no legislation has to be introduced.

Because British ministers need to tread such a very narrow line between what would cause too much offence either to the Commonwealth or to their own backbenchers they may be tempted to play too much of a leading role at The Hague.

The danger is that they might assume too much responsibility for measures that are unlikely to achieve more than modest success. They could then find themselves being held accountable for their failure in a year's time.

Much better, for example, that Sir Geoffrey Howe should be one of three European foreign ministers undertaking another diplomatic mission to South Africa than that he should take on the thankless task by himself. It is prudent in politics not to claim sole responsibility unless there is a reasonable chance of success.

If Britain could bring peace and stability to South Africa then it would be right to take all necessary risks to do so. But there is no point in risking the national interest in a futile attempt to exercise more influence than this country now possesses.

Britons are held after UN death

Lusaka (AP) - Five foreign nationals, two of them British, have been arrested in north-western Zambia after a killing in a United Nations refugee camp, the government-owned Zambia Daily Mail reported yesterday.

The newspaper said the five were being held in connection with "various offences, including possession of automatic rifles and ammunition and illegal entry into Zambia".

The arrests took place near the border with Zaire. Police said two people had been arrested at the Maheta refugee camp near the provincial capital of Solwezi after a man was found dead with a bullet through his head inside the camp.

The newspaper said the five were being held in connection with "various offences, including possession of automatic rifles and ammunition and illegal entry into Zambia".

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Four die in homeland

Mr Enos Mabuza, the Chief Minister of the black South African homeland of KaNgwane, above, announced yesterday that four youths were killed there on June 16, the anniversary of the 1976 Soweto uprising. He said a number of other people were injured in the incident in KaNgwane township.

Mr Mabuza referred to the deaths in a speech to the South Africa-Britain Trade Association in Johannesburg yesterday.

He gave further information to reporters later. But the details he gave of the circumstances of the deaths may not be reported under emergency restrictions on media reporting of political unrest.

No comment was immediately available from the South African Government's Bureau for Information.

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Talks with Tambo denounced

From Our Own Correspondent, Johannesburg

The meeting in London between Mr Oliver Tambo, president of the outlawed African National Congress, and Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State at the Foreign Office, was denounced here yesterday as being "a capitulation to terrorism as a political weapon".

The accusation was made in the South African Broadcasting Corporation's Current Affairs commentary, which reflects government views.

It said Britain had abandoned its policy of not talking to the ANC while the organization used violence.

On his arrival here on Tuesday, Mr Denis Healey, the Labour Party's chief foreign affairs spokesman, called the meeting a significant shift in British policy, adding that his party drew a clear distinction between the ANC and the IRA.

"The ANC represents a very large number... of the black population inside South Africa who have no political rights whatever. The IRA represents a very small proportion of the Catholic population in Northern Ireland who all have full political rights."

The comparison between the ANC and the IRA is one frequently made here.

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Hatred dooms Beirut truce

From Juan Carlos Guncocio, Bourj al-Barajneh

"You killed my son," shouted an elderly Shia Muslim woman as she threw herself at a Palestinian housewife who was trying to enter the Bourj al-Barajneh refugee camp with three bags of oranges, lettuce and coffee.

"No food for the Palestinians," she screamed, snatching the bags from the woman amid loud laughter from a group of haggard gunmen of the Shia Amal militia who began collecting the fruit and packages from the footpath.

"Now we have good coffee," joked a young fighter, an AK47 assault rifle dangling from his shoulder.

Two blocks away, two young women who were also trying to enter the camp were stopped by gunmen. "Don't let them in. They are Palestinian spies," ordered a man emerging from a bullet-scarred house.

After 300 soldiers of the Lebanese Army's mainly Shia 6th Brigade took positions

around the besieged Sabra, Chatilla and Bourj al-Barajneh camps in accordance with a Syrian-sponsored ceasefire, fighting between Amal and the Palestinians on Wednesday subsided to sporadic sniper exchanges.

A remarkable departure from the rocket, mortar and heavy machine-gun battles that persisted for 36 days.

But the legacy of hatred, the volume of available weaponry and the political deadlock between Syria and the PLO of Mr Yassir Arafat, cast serious doubts on the future of the new truce.

"Maybe ten, twelve days of calm," a Shia fighter predicted. "Then, boom boom again."

Less than 50 yards away, young Palestinian guerrillas, sunbathing on the skeleton of a house scored by rocket-propelled grenades, agreed. "They think they can win," said one. "They want to kill all of us. Let them come, you tell them to come," he said. Apparently unshaken by the

long siege, the Palestinians denied reports that they were suffering from a shortage of food.

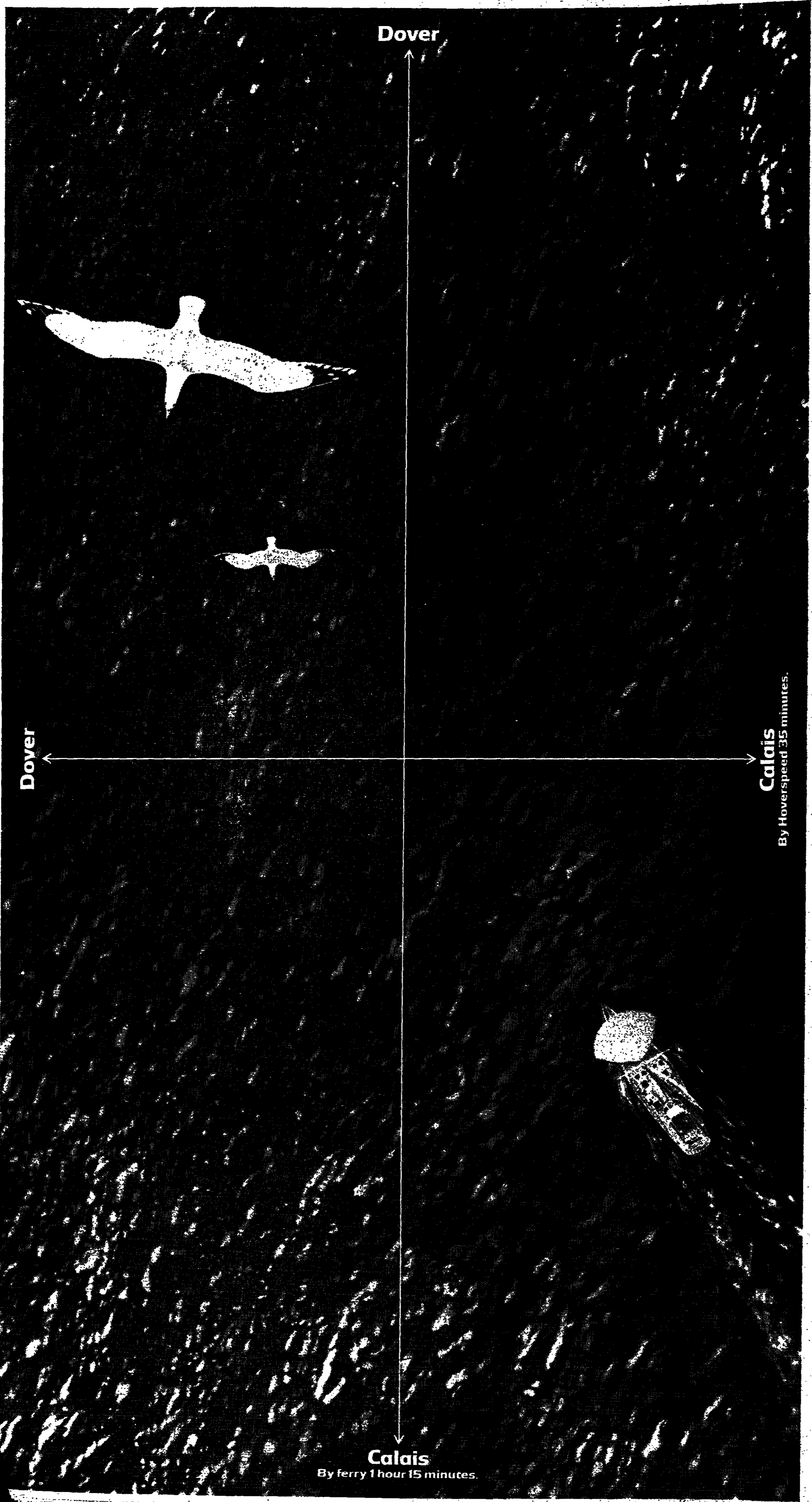
Sporting a clean Palestinian T-shirt, Samira, a young nurse at Chatilla's field hospital, said: "We can provide food to whoever wants it, even outside the camps."

The Palestinians seem to be facing other difficulties. Dr Chris Gianou, a Canadian surgeon working for the Red Crescent, said on Tuesday that the Chatilla hospital was running out of medical essentials after more than 60 operations.

Reliable medical sources say the overall number of wounded is as high as 1,000.

"Too many people are dead. Peace now is impossible if the Palestinians stay here," said a man in his 40s who said he was a Shia Muslim electrician living on the fringes of Bourj al-Barajneh, but whose evident authority among gunmen hinted at a rather high militia command post. "They (the Palestinians) must go."

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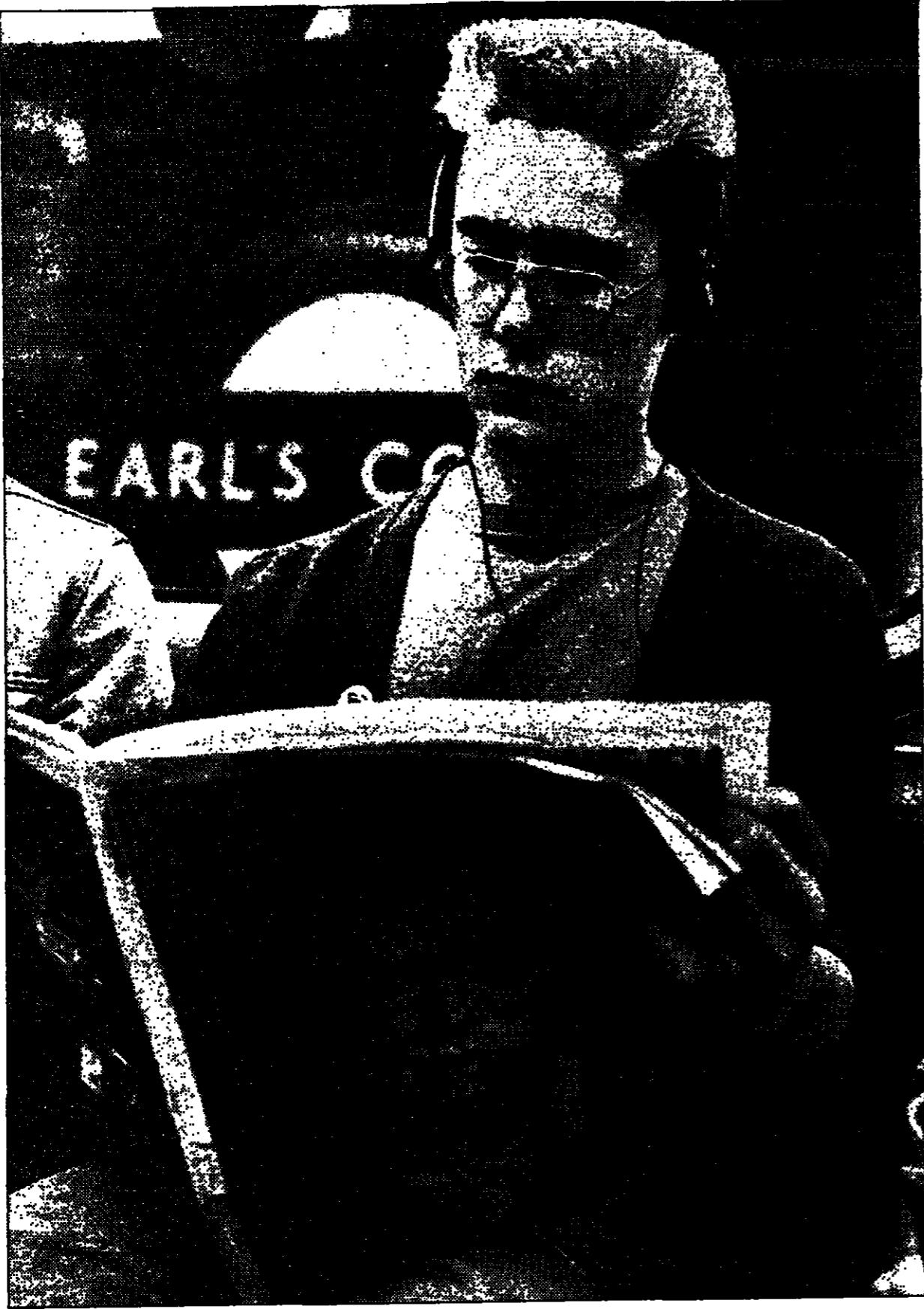
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THE NEEDY.

12 million people buy blank audio tape in Britain. They are going to be asked to pay as much as another £12 million for the right to use it freely – via a Tape Levy.

54% of the young buy blank tape – yet youth unemployment is now running at over 25%.

Visually handicapped people are heavy buyers of blank tapes – getting a rebate on the levy will be difficult for them.

'Heavy' tape buyers buy 5 times as many records – yet the music industry wants even more money from its supporters.

The vast majority of tape buyers record material on which they have already paid a copyright fee – the music industry wants them to pay twice.

Many users do not record copyright material – yet the record and music companies will be getting the levy from them too.



THE GREEDY.

Record companies are enjoying highest album sales since Beatles days – yet they have successfully pressured the government for the right to collect yet more money from all tape buyers.

The music industry makes its millions mainly from the young – yet the proposed Tape Levy will hit them hardest.

Tape is particularly important to the blind – yet they are bound to suffer cost or inconvenience, whilst the music industry prospers.

The price of an LP includes payment for the right to listen to it any number of times – yet the music industry is about to be granted a second payment for the same right.

Even if you record your own voice, you will still have to pay the record companies the levy.

WHOSE SIDE ARE YOU ON?

Oppose the Tape Levy. It's a gift to the greedy.

The Chernobyl aftermath

Huge plant sited near city

From Christopher Walker Vilnius

As a gesture of faith in Soviet nuclear power, it has been announced here that a giant reactor of the Chernobyl design, but 50 per cent greater in capacity, will begin operating later this year.

It will be at a new nuclear plant now under construction less than 80 miles from the Lithuanian capital, a city of 500,000 inhabitants.

The 1,500-megawatt RBMK reactor is nearing completion at a vast but little-publicized plant among pine forests near the town of Ignalina, from which it takes its name. It will join one of similar size which has been operating for two years, with two more due to be built by 1990, making the Lithuanian nuclear complex one of the biggest in the world.

The new reactor will be sited only 300 miles from the stricken 1,000-megawatt reactor at Chernobyl now being buried in thick layers of protective concrete.

A new town is being built next to the plant to house workers, similar to the now deserted town of Pripyat which housed those who ran Chernobyl.

The decision to press ahead with the reactor has caused concern among the residents of Vilnius. Anxiety in the city



has been higher than in many parts of the Soviet Union because the full scale of the Chernobyl disaster was discovered through Polish radio and television broadcasts which can be easily received.

Many people have written to the Central Committee of the Lithuanian Communist Party expressing their worries about what is happening at Ignalina, one Soviet source said. "As a result, the party leaders went there and came back to reassure us that it is all safe."

Diplomatic sources said that the starting-up of such a large reactor in the Baltic region would also cause new concern in those countries which were worst hit by the fallout from Chernobyl, including Poland which borders part of Lithuania.

The announcement about the new reactor was made to a small group of journalists on a

rare official trip to Lithuania, one of 15 Soviet republics. Senior Soviet officials were openly dismissive of concern expressed in the West.

Mr Bronius Zaikauskas, chief of Lithuania's economic planning organization, confirmed that the new reactor would be of the graphite-moderated type which exploded at Chernobyl and whose design is unique to the Soviet nuclear industry. He claimed proudly that the plant would be the first of its size.

"Since Chernobyl, a team from the Academy of Sciences has visited Ignalina to inspect the reactors and to take care of environmental protection," Mr Zaikauskas said. "A number of extra safety measures have been introduced and we are satisfied with them."

The official did not spell out what the additional precautions were. But inspection of the 30R-long, illuminated model of the gigantic plant, taking pride of place at the exhibition "of Lithuanian economic achievements", revealed no sign of the type of containment vessel common in the West.

When Ignalina is completed, Lithuania will become a net exporter of electricity to other parts of the Soviet Union, as opposed to an importer, as at present. Although both the south and east

of the republic were directly hit by the Chernobyl cloud, officials tried hard to minimize the effects of the April 26 disaster.

But one spokesman from the Lithuanian Foreign Ministry disclosed that two weeks after the explosion in the Ukraine, the republic's Minister of Health had made a special local television broadcast designed to reassure the 3.5 million citizens.

The spokesman said that the broadcast was necessary because of "wild rumours" that spread because of Polish reports of the precautions being taken there.

But a 30-year-old Vilnius woman confirmed that, behind the official protestations of calm, concern about the nuclear issue was the main topic of concern in Lithuania, one of three Baltic republics.

Ukraine switch: Ukrainian authorities are bringing more nuclear reactors on stream and economizing on electricity use to make up for power losses caused by the Chernobyl accident, Tass said (Reuter reports).

One 1,000-megawatt unit will come into operation this autumn at Rovno in the western Ukraine, and another will start producing electricity at Zaporozhye near the Sea of Azov by the end of the year, Tass said.



In the shadow of his leader, Mr Max Kampelman, chief US arms negotiator, addressing the press yesterday in Geneva.

Americans optimistic on Geneva arms talks

From Alan McGregor Geneva

The fifth round of US-Soviet negotiations on nuclear and space weapons ended yesterday on about the most optimistic note the American side has permitted itself since the talks began almost 16 months ago.

"We hope the round has in some areas opened the way to a serious dialogue which will narrow our differences and lead to agreement," Mr Max Kampelman, the chief US delegate, said.

In contrast, his Soviet counterpart, Mr Viktor Karpov, when asked about progress, said: "I have not noticed any."

Mr Kampelman said the US proposal originally made on November 1 for a 50 per cent cut in strategic nuclear arms remained on the table, while the Soviet side had put forward a new option envisaging a lesser reduction.

Also on the table was the February 24 US proposal on elimination of long-range intermediate missiles (such as the SS20), alongside an earlier Soviet one.

"In the defence and space area, we have in this round received modified Soviet proposals."

These had been described by President Reagan as indicative of a serious effort by the Russians, possibly leading to a turning-point in endeavours to make the world a safer place.

Mr Kampelman said: "I do not want to minimize... differences remaining between us, but... in some areas we may now have fresh opportunities for serious and constructive discussion."

Pressure still on for Shin Bet inquiry

From Ian Murray Jerusalem

Mr Yitzhak Navon, the former President of Israel, is leading a campaign to open an investigation into Shin Bet, the counter-intelligence agency.

Such an investigation was virtually ruled out this week by an amnesty granted to Shin Bet leaders by Mr Chaim Herzog, the present President.

Mr Navon, who is now Education Minister, voted in support of granting the amnesties in the 10-man inner Cabinet on Tuesday morning.

But, along with most of his Labour Party Cabinet colleagues, he is now critical of the deal, which made it impossible to prosecute any Shin Bet officers involved in the killing two years ago of two Palestinians who hijacked a bus and of then arranging a cover-up.

Mr Moshe Shalom, the Energy Minister, who is also a lawyer, says that he will ask the full Cabinet meeting on Sunday to set up a full-scale commission of inquiry.

He argues that, as the Shin Bet chief no longer has anything to fear, it is essential that the nation finds out what the role of the politicians was.

Mr Amnon Rubinstein, the Minister of Communications and a lawyer, has threatened to pull his small left-wing Shinui Party out of the government coalition if no inquiry is set up.

But, despite this, there seems little or no chance of an inquiry, given that the Likud members of the Government are all firmly against the idea, which would expose their leader, Mr Yitzhak Shamir, to a damaging investigation into whether he had given his permission for the two men's death and the subsequent cover-up.

Mr Shamir said yesterday that an investigation "would reveal those things which should not be revealed". There was no country in the world, he said, which would allow an inquiry into the way its security services worked.

Mr Avraham Shalom, who resigned as head of Shin Bet as part of the deal, had told the inner Cabinet that he acted with the full backing of the politicians responsible - a pointed reference to Mr Shamir, Prime Minister at the time of the bus hijacking.

Solidarity woos 'red devils'

Poland is gearing up for its first Communist Party congress in five years. White-capped traffic policemen are checking car boots for leaflets, flower tubs have been set up, and red flags flutter beside the Polish emblem on lamp-posts.

Even Solidarity, the outlawed union pursued with some ferocity in the past few weeks, has entered the festive mood by producing a remarkable appeal to the party delegates.

It comes in a makeshift newspaper called the Congress Gazette, which is unsigned, though clearly written by union activists with close ties to the party. Most underground publications dismiss the Communists as red devils, alien implants on Polish soil.

From Roger Boyes, Warsaw form-orientated members of the party.

Poles should stop looking for scapegoats, says the document. "You don't believe either that Reagan and the extremists are to blame for every evil. You, like ourselves, are perfectly aware that other East bloc countries, despite their dependence on the Soviet Union, are managing much better than Poland."

The distinction between those in the right - who support everything proposed by the Warsaw leadership - and those in the wrong, who oppose everything that socialism represents, is a false one, say the authors. In fact, there are opponents of social justice, people who believe only in the sanctity of money, in both Solidarity and the Communist Party. The aim should be to build a bridge between democratic reformers within and without the party.

"You are told all the time that Solidarity was and is an anti-socialist force, but have we been charged with anything concrete? Is it anti-socialist to want self-government? If we oppose concentrating too much power in the hands of a few apparatchiks, the point is not to overthrow but to improve socialism.

"Let us start exchanging views instead of slander, and we will find that what divides us consists mainly of militia cordons and propaganda clichés."

The appeal seems to be made in the hope that some of the more than 1,000 delegates support greater internal party democracy. As the clandestine paper makes clear, the leading supporters of expanding democracy within the party have been pushed out of power since the last congress in 1981.

Iran frees French prisoner

Paris (AP) - A Tehran-based employee of Air France, accused by Iran of turning his home into a "centre of corruption" and held for more than a year, has been freed, Air France said yesterday.

Jean-Yves Albertini, director in Tehran for France's state-run airline, was arrested on April 18 1985 allegedly during a party at his home attended by about 50 Iranians. Charged with "inciting Muslims to debauchery" and "forbidden sexual practices," he was sentenced on July 9 1985 to a year in prison.

The French Government has been working for his release. His case was mentioned to Iranian authorities during a December visit to Tehran by a four-man French parliamentary delegation.

Shcharansky plea for immigrants

From Our Own Correspondent, Jerusalem

Israel's best-known recent immigrant, Mr Anatoly Shcharansky, has expressed strong criticism of the way in which the country treats its immigrants.

Speaking to a meeting of the Jewish Agency Assembly here, Mr Shcharansky told of complaints he had heard from other Soviet Jews he has met since his release from prison in Russia in February.

They had difficulty buying houses and finding jobs, he said. Many had told him they

did not feel needed in the country.

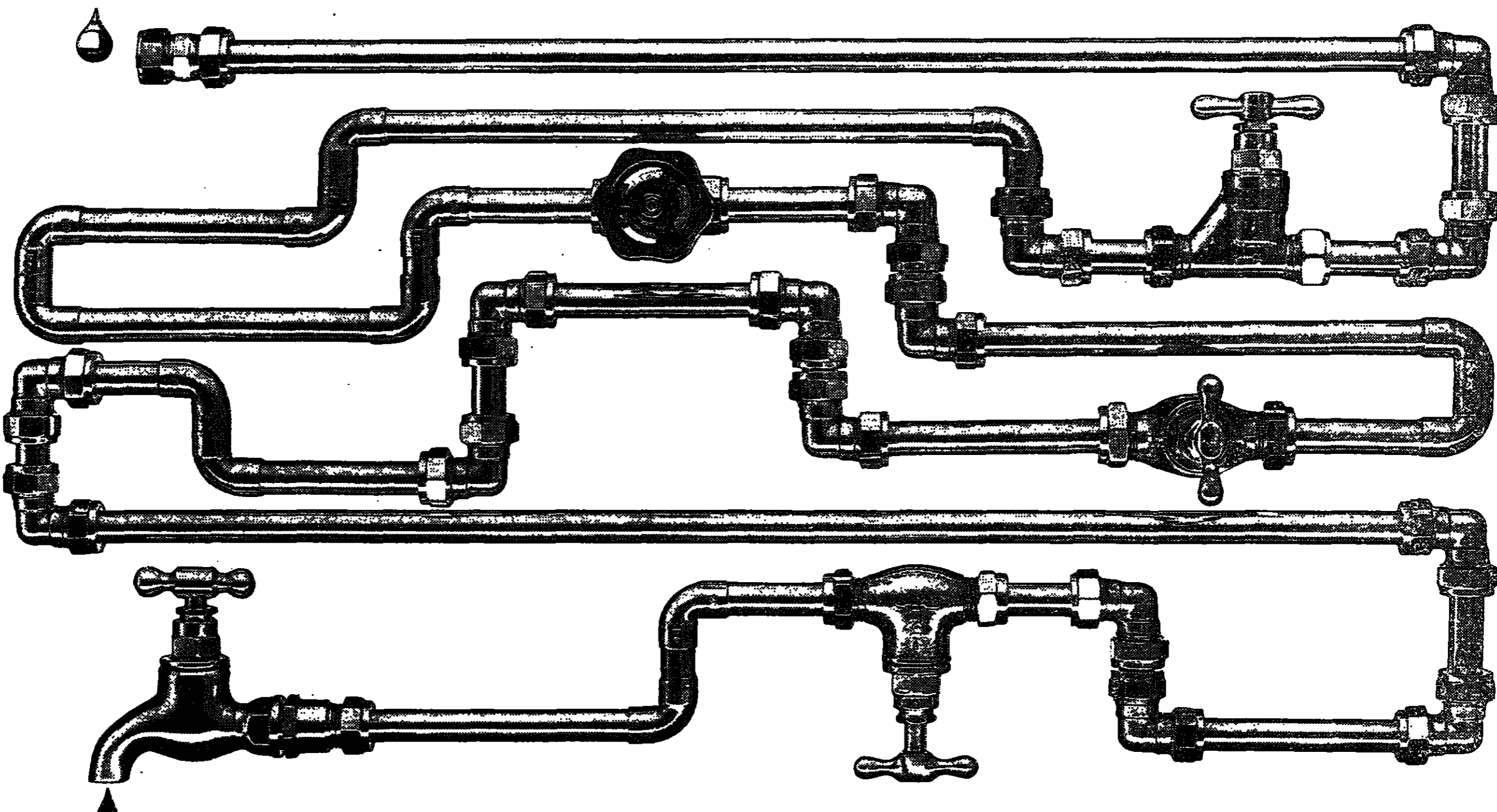
Although he has decided to live in Israel, he urged the assembly not to do anything to prevent Soviet Jews granted exit visas from going to the United States.

About 70 per cent of those allowed to leave the Soviet Union in the past decade have crossed the Atlantic and are referred to in Israel as "dropouts".

He warned against seeing his release as a reason for

détente, and argued that Israel must not try to establish diplomatic links with the Soviet Union at the expense of emigration.

Immigration to Israel is at its lowest ebb, and criticism of the way its immigration policy is applied has led this week to a top-level meeting chaired by Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, who is seeking ways to reduce the bureaucracy faced by migrants and to interest young people in visiting the country for academic courses.



Hot water doesn't travel well.

The shorter the distance hot water has to travel from the heater to the user, the better.

For a central boiler system, that's a problem. Even in a small building, long pipe runs are inevitable - and along every centimetre, you lose heat. To add to the wastage, a pump continually circulates hot water around the system - whether it's wanted or not.

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How a doctor got drunk and saved thousands of lives.

Thankfully, Dr. Borel was a much better doctor than he was a cocktail mixer.

His most famous concoction was in fact a mixture of pure alcohol, detergent, water and a medicine which his research team had discovered called Cyclosporin.

A mixture he threw down with alarming abandon.

Needless to say this potion made him rather dizzy, but a blood sample taken some time later made him smile for quite another reason.

For he had proven that Cyclosporin could be absorbed by the human body. Something which previous tests with less interesting cocktails had failed to do.

This new medicine (now reformulated) has since helped save the lives of thousands of people who have received organ transplants by dramatically reducing the risk of rejection. Together with improved medical and surgical techniques it's made transplant surgery a highly successful method of treating life threatening illnesses, such as kidney failure.

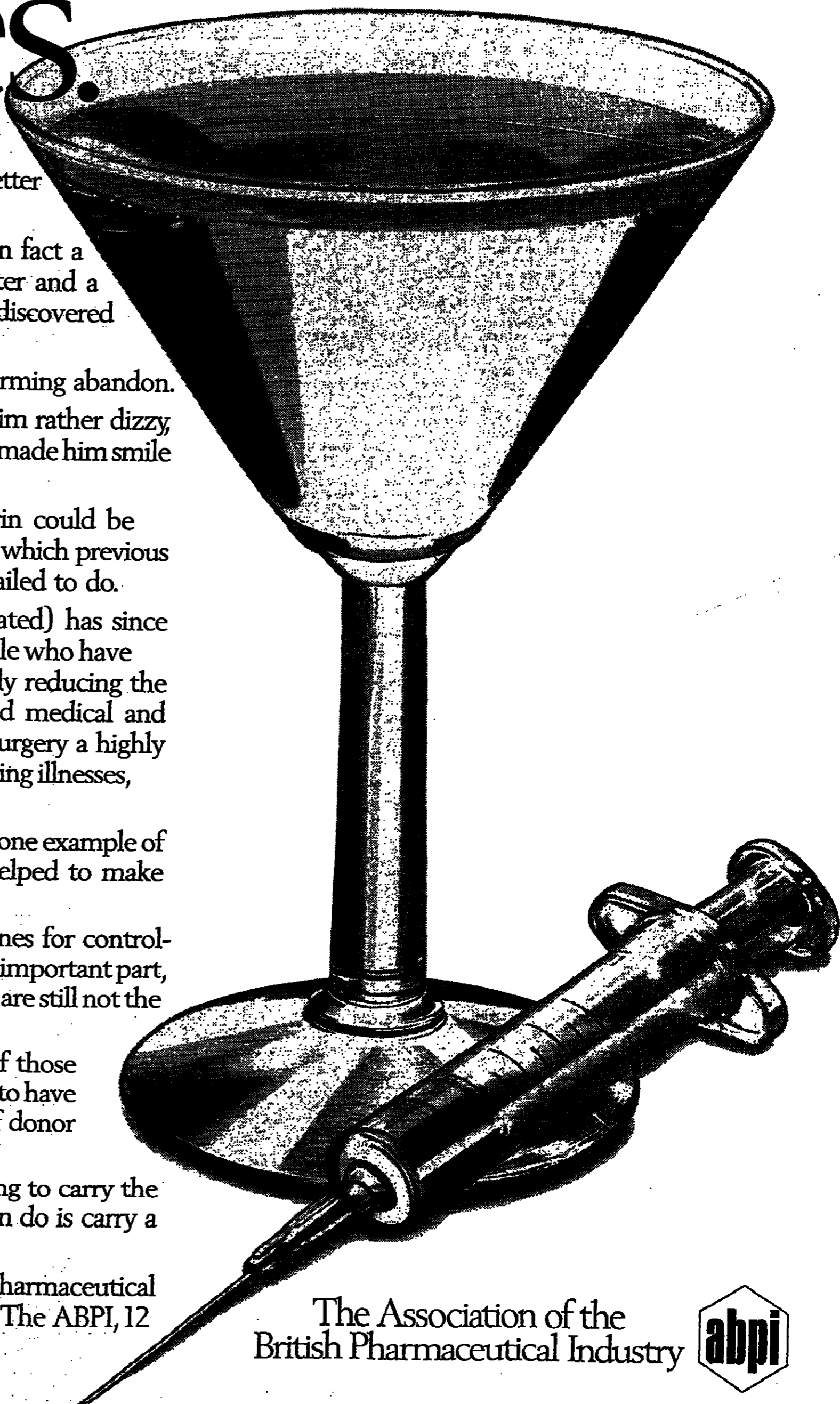
But better control of rejection is only one example of the ways pharmaceutical research has helped to make transplant surgery a successful reality.

Anaesthetics, antibiotics and medicines for controlling virus and fungal infections also play an important part, although new medicines and surgical skills are still not the only vital ingredients.

In Britain last year, well over 1,000 of those waiting for a kidney transplant were unable to have one. The reason for this was a shortage of donor organs.

If the pharmaceutical industry is going to carry the responsibility of research, the least you can do is carry a donor card.

To find out more about the British Pharmaceutical Industry, please write to: Dr. John Griffin, The ABPI, 12 Whitehall, London SW1A 2DY.



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The Somme's undying echoes



Through a ruined landscape into a wall of machine-gun fire: left, going over the top on the Somme, and right, a 6in 26cwt howitzer being manhandled through the mud near Pozieres

There will be voices whispering down these ways, The while one wanderer is left to hear, And the young life and laughter of old days, Shall make undying echoes

Geoffrey Watkyn Young

On July 1, 1916, Kitchener's volunteer army awoke to find a light rain falling through morning mist. Lieutenant Chetwynd-Stapleton, on air patrol above the front, saw "a bank of low cloud" on which "one could see ripples...from the terrific bombardment that was taking place below. It looked like a large lake of mist, with thousands of stones being thrown into it."

Along the front - Gommecourt, Beaumont Hamel, Thiepval, La Boisselle, Fricourt - men were as ready as they would ever be. At 7.30am, to the shrill of platoon commanders' whistles, they climbed their scaling ladders and went over the top to win the war. Within the first hour of the Battle of the Somme 20,000 were dead, another 40,000 wounded. The battle dragged on into the winter, by which time the British casualty list had grown to 419,654, with a further 200,000 French.

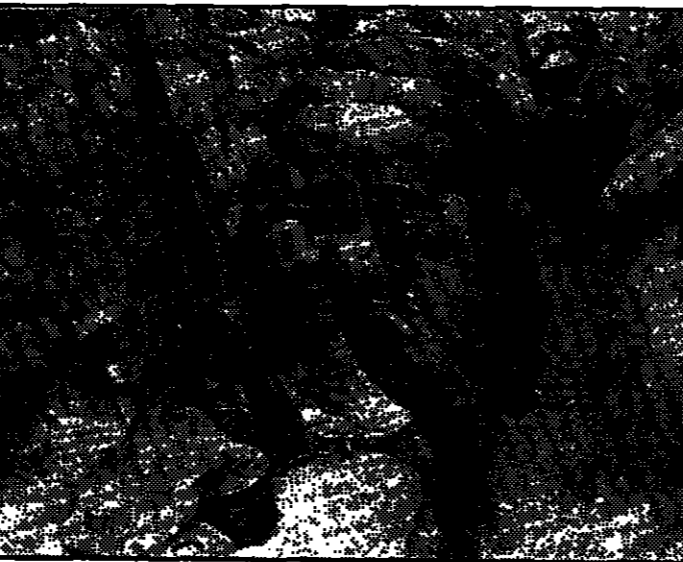
engaged in the slaughter, 97 were Kitchener's or New Army; they were a volunteer army, the "Pals' Battalions".

When Lord Derby promised that he had Kitchener's guarantee that those "who joined together should serve together", the young men of Liverpool's business offices came forward in battalion strength. So did miners from South Wales, fishermen from Grimsby, dockers from Poplar and Shoreditch, journalists from Bloomsbury. There was the so-called Public Schools Battalion, the 1st Football Church Lads, the 1st Public Works - old pals, every one.

They were commanded by officers whose accents they could hardly understand. Yet in this apparently infertile soil a kinship took root. Siegfried Sassoon described how trust, even self-surrender became visible in the faces of his men as he inspected their feet at the end of a route march. And if they trusted their platoon commanders, what confidence must they have placed in their staff officers - who had explained in reasonable terms that on June 24 would commence an artillery bombardment of such unparalleled intensity that the opposition would be reduced to token strength by the day of the attack.

And it was the barbed wire that caused the wholesale massacre of 18-year-old farm boys, insurance clerks, welders and fitters - lines

Kitchener promised that those who joined together would serve together. Seventy years ago the Pals' Battalions died together on the grim battlefields of the Somme. Michael Watkins relives their hour of glory



Exhaustion: a British soldier in a trench at Thiepval

of uncomprehending youngsters, numbered about the neck, inadequately trained, drugged by sleeplessness, many suffering from gangrenous trench-foot, dragging through a ruined landscape into a wall of machine-gun fire. For if it was the wire that stopped them, it was the German machine-guns that applied the final seal of fatality to the British General Staff's miscalculations. A trained rifleman could get off 15 shots a minute, to the machine-gunner's 600.

The men who went over the top were exterminated by a conveyor-belt technique; those who refused were shot in their

own trenches for cowardice. Small wonder Sassoon commented in his diary: "I am staring at a sunlit picture of Hell."

On June 30, 2nd Lt John Engall, of the 16th London Regiment, wrote home that this was "the day before the most important of my life...I took Communion yesterday with dozens of others who are going over tomorrow and never have I attended a more impressive service. I placed my body in God's keeping and I am going into battle with his name on my lips."

New Cemetery, in Bucquoy Communal Cemetery, in Rossignol Wood Cemetery. And I looked in Owl Trench Cemetery, so small that I paced it, 15 by 10 paces, where there are 24 headstones only - all Yorkshiremen.

The graveyards, like every one I saw, were immaculate, the grass mown, edges trimmed, the flowers colourful, weedless. The headstones were so white, they must be regularly cleaned. Many graves are marked "Unknown, but known to God"; and in most cemeteries a tablet reminds visitors that "Their Name Liveth For Evermore". But there was nothing to remind me of John Engall.

Next I searched the Thiepval Memorial, commemorating 73,412 of the Somme dead who have no known graves. So many thousands, and too young to fall asleep for ever - except that that euphemism really won't do: they didn't fall asleep; they died painfully, horribly, and alone. Especially alone, buried in the mud in which they fell. I never did find John Engall.

At Beaumont Hamel he has been kept as it was in 1916. The place has a brooding quality that cannot be entirely in the imagination. If you believe, as I do, that hundreds of years of prayer impregnate the fabric of a church; that generations of birth, laughter, tears, leave a mark upon an old house - then it should not be difficult to sense a ghost army on the move.

emerged from the Somme unscathed, returned to the field to work for the Imperial War Graves Commission; to care for his old pals. Arthur carried on in his footsteps. "They're my friends. They're still alive to me - the battle goes on." I am just telling you what he said.

There is a corner of a foreign field to which I am particularly drawn. It is called Blighty Valley Cemetery, quite near Beaumont Hamel. As I approached it there were poppies, bright as the blood of the New Testament. Every cemetery has a roll of honour and as I glanced through Blighty's, hoping for something familiar, I noticed a street I knew in Norwich. It is where, in July 1916, Mr and Mrs J. Baker lived, at 115 Beaconfield Road. They would have been there when the telegram arrived informing them that their son, Private Horace Samuel Baker 13266, had been killed on the first day of battle. He was 19. The roll gave his position as Row V.F.19.

I found the grave; but as I looked down I heard no tunes of glory. Of the Somme I find it impossible to glory in the incompetence that turned battle into carnage or in the intransigence of the field commanders who refused to call off the attack. But then I am reminded of Sassoon's *Memoirs of an Infantry Officer*: "...it was unpatriotic to be bitter, and the dead were assumed to be gloriously happy".

In Blighty Valley I thought also of two promises we, the living, made to this fallen army. One was that at the going down of the sun and in the morning we will remember them. The other was that this was the war to end all wars. A promise kept; and a promise broken.

Tuned in to society

At the Inter-Continental Hotel in Park Lane today Princess Michael of Kent and a glittering gathering of musicians will sit down to luncheon with a purpose. They aim to raise £60,000 for the Nordoff-Robbins Music Therapy Centre in Kentish Town, north London. In the last 10 years this annual meal, the Silver Clef lunch, has raised half a million pounds for the centre, which treats about 50 severely handicapped children a week.

Interest in music therapy has grown steadily since 1958 when Juliette Alvin founded the British Society for Music Therapy, and there are now three full-time, post-graduate courses in the subject. At a probation service day training centre in Camberwell, south London, teams of probation officers and therapists help offenders to understand their own behaviour and break their pattern of offences.

Bill, who had been sentenced to spend 12 weeks at the centre (not connected with Nordoff-Robbins) found it difficult to communicate during activities there. But after listening to a duet at a music therapy session there was a breakthrough when he admitted he felt "shut out, isolated". He was encouraged to improvise (on a marimba) some music for someone he knew. Bill produced a piece about his son before telling a story of how he had stopped the boy from stealing.

Emma, who is in her sixties, had a stroke which left her semi-paralysed. Singing helped her to communicate again because the stroke had not affected the right side of her brain, which is thought to control melody. Jessie, aged 25, would not speak following a mental breakdown, but after several months of music therapy she is talking once more.



side of her brain, which is thought to control melody. Jessie, aged 25, would not speak following a mental breakdown, but after several months of music therapy she is talking once more.

But the most positive areas for music therapy seem to be in helping young children, according to Leslie Bunt, who holds Britain's first doctorate in the subject. "Music therapy spontaneously motivates children to vocalize and to understand turn-taking", he says.

Therapists use many different methods. My style is based on observing carefully the normal interaction processes between, say, child and parent, and looking at unusual parallels to see how music fits into these normal patterns. Three years ago Bunt established the Bristol Music Therapy Centre. He now has a team of five therapists in the Avon area who help a wide range of people, from babies to geriatrics, and he would like to see similar centres set up throughout the country.

Peta Levi

SATURDAY - Portfolio Gold - £12,000 to be won

Observer observed
Andy Warhol describes his forthcoming London show as 'just a self-portrait, the same portrait 16 times'. In an exclusive interview, The Times finds the artist relishes his 'soup can' image

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Star-spangled banker

Barber Benjamin Conable Jr, the seventh President of the World Bank, is a red, white and blue American, wrapped in the traditional values of the small town American politics which shaped his 20-year Congressional career. The only things missing from his curriculum vitae are pronouncements on motherhood and a stated devotion to apple pie. But the man who has taken on what some observers call "mission impossible" also recites poetry, speaks Japanese, collects antiques and bears a strong independent streak.

In 1984 he resigned a safe Congressional seat partly because he believed the Reagan administration was aloof towards moderate Republicans. And he refused lucrative offers to become a lobbyist for special interest groups, explaining: "I do not want to be owned".

At 63, Conable, a member of the executive board of the Boy Scouts of America, a decorated war veteran and a passionate collector of American Indian memorabilia, embarks on a new career, taking a position described by Robert McNamara, one of his illustrious predecessors, as "the best job in the world".

Immediately after his inauguration next Tuesday, he faces critical decisions on the twin global crises of development and debt.

He must decide how the bank can continue with its traditional role of poverty alleviation, given the present cuts in poverty programmes; become the intellectual leader in sustaining global growth in a world frightened by enormous imbalances which threaten prosperity; and seize the lead role from the International Monetary Fund in resolving the entrenched debt problem, pushing for repayment adjustments in countries like Mexico and Argentina.

The new World Bank president is an apple-pie American with a penchant for reciting poetry



Conable: boy scouts' honour

He must also convince rich nations to channel more resources to the poorest nations in sub-Saharan Africa and react to growing pressure on Japan to recycle its huge trade surplus by establishing a special facility to a poor nation.

Conable takes on all these problems and the others facing the world's largest development agency - it has a 7,000-strong bureaucracy dispensing \$15 billion a year to the Third World - having, until now, managed nothing larger than a small Congressional staff.

Critics say that only a distinguished person of broad international experience is capable of restoring vision and purpose to the bank, which lost its way during the turbulent debt-crisis years.

They fear that Conable will either succumb to the same sophisticated bureaucracy that defeated his predecessor, A.W. "Tom" Clausen, or he will

turn the 149-nation bank into an adjunct of the US Treasury, run by his friend and former political colleague, James Baker III.

But friends and associates warn against under-estimating Conable. The portrait they paint is of a man of strong convictions and formidable intellect. During his 20 years in Congress he became a chief architect of tax policy and mastered complex trade and economic issues, earning bipartisan respect for pragmatic policies which set him apart from the ardent supply-siders who supported the Reagan fiscal deficits as necessary evils. Conable, the fiscal conservative, argues for tax increases.

When he resigned from Congress he made no mention of discord. He left, he said, because it was time to move on. "I did not want to participate in a sense of personal decline." It was then that he turned down the lobbyists, accepting instead a job teaching political science at the University of Rochester in New York.

Throughout his Congressional career, when others were accepting big money from special interest groups, he refused to accept campaign contributions of more than \$50 for fear of compromising his integrity.

Conable is a multi-faceted man and a stickler for accuracy. There is also a quixotic side to his personality.

His poetry recitals range from Longfellow to Omar Khayyam and he once started a Lions club auditions by asking them to choose whether they wanted a report on Washington or a poetry recitation. The audience voted narrowly to hear about Washington. Conable, interestingly, was disappointed.

Bailey Morris

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FRIDAY PAGE

A step not taken lightly

Is marrying into a ready-made family more trouble than it's worth? Lee Rodwell spoke to struggling — and successful — step-parents

More than a million children already live with a step-parent and, according to estimates based on current trends, a further one and a half million are growing up with a divorced or separated parent who may remarry.

Step-parenting may be common enough, but it can still cause many problems. One step-mother, Christine Atkinson, feels that many of these could be avoided if potential step-parents were aware of the difficulties that can arise.

Her book, Step-parenting, published earlier this month, offers a great deal of practical advice. Christine, whose own step-sons Michael, Christopher and Robin were 10, 14 and 15 when she married their father, and who are now grown up, says: "A step-marriage is like a skin graft — you are the patch taken from elsewhere. We all know that it takes a long time for a skin graft to 'take' but it's important to appreciate that it may take a long time for a step-family to 'take', too.

Like a skin graft, a step-marriage is a delicate operation in the early stages but all too often we go ahead without the consideration that is demanded."

Certainly Nina (not her real name) feels that she and her

A step-marriage is like a skin graft — you are the patch from elsewhere'

husband Jim should have discussed the situation more fully before they married. At the time she was 27, Jim was 42, his wife had died a year earlier and his three children, two boys and a girl, were aged between nine and 14.

Nina, a teacher, says: "Jim seemed to think that everything would fall into place, but it's never as easy as that. To begin with, I moved into the house that had been the family home. The idea was to cause the children as little disruption as possible. But, inevitably, you live in the past and as a result the children feel far more at home than I do. There doesn't seem to be a room in the house I can call my own, even our bedroom. The children were obviously used to walking in when their mother was alive, and they still do it.

Then there is the kind of stigma that is attached to being a step-mother. You are always aware of the wicked step-mother myth, you think people are watching you the way they wouldn't watch a normal mother. So, certainly at the beginning, I tried too hard. I was scared of doing or saying anything in case it

upset the children or reminded them of their mother.

"It would have been easier if the children had been younger, but they were well established in their ways. Now we sometimes have dreadful rows. I think their own mother would have reacted in the same way to the same behaviour, but it still makes you feel guilty.

"One of the problems is that you seem to have no rights, yet you are expected to do so much. I had a full-time job, but I soon discovered it was too much to cope with on top of running a large house and looking after three children. So now I only work part-time — and I am resentful of that. The money I earn goes into our joint account, yet I don't have any real say on how that money is spent on the children.

"The biggest mistake we made was not to talk about it at the beginning. I don't think the children have ever talked about how they felt about their mother's death or about me. I have tried. I brought home booklets about step-families and I asked Jim to read it and then to pass it on to the children. He flipped through it and gave it to one of the boys. But no one has mentioned it since. It's like banging your head on a brick wall. I still feel like an outsider. All the time you are trying to understand them, but no one is trying to understand you."

Even when step-parents are aware of some of the problems that may lie ahead the reality may come as a shock. Laura was 34 when she married a divorced man with a daughter of 12 and a son of 10. Laura had been a friend of the children's mother and had known them since they were six and eight. She says: "Although I had nothing at all to do with the break-up of their parents' marriage, both children were extremely hostile to me after I married their father. And meeting such implacable hostility head-on was a bit of a shock.

"My step-daughter, for instance, would come into the room to talk to her father and completely ignore me. Yet this was a child I had read stories to, taken out for treats. She just found it extremely difficult adjusting to the idea of me as a step-mother rather than a friend of her mother. This is still a problem, even though her father and I have a cordial relationship with her mother and the man she is living with."

Laura admits that things improved slightly when her son, now three, was born. "He has forged a link between me and my step-daughter: she is devoted to him. But as she has become less hostile, my step-son has become more so. He feels ambivalent about my son. He likes him, but he sees him as a rival too. He's taken away the special



place he had, both as the youngest and as the only son.

As Christine Atkinson would be the first to point out, every step-parent's case is different. The difficulties facing a couple who each bring children from a previous marriage may be different from those where only husband or wife has been a parent before. The problems which have to be sorted out by a step-family living under one roof may be worlds apart from those experienced by a family where step-children visit only occasionally.

Caroline, 36, who is married to a man with two teenage boys who visit them one weekend every month, says: "In some ways it might be easier if we had them all the time. This way it's like starting all over again each time.

"If anything, it has got harder since we had children of our own. Now I feel the older boys intrude into precious family time, however hard I try not to think it. I'm far more critical of their behaviour than I used to be because I don't want the younger children copying them. The things I nag them about are the things that most mothers nag about — not eating their food, watching too much television, not

hanging their coats up. But the difference is that there isn't another side to the coin.

"I nag my own children that way, but at the end of the day we'll have a kiss and a cuddle and a goodnight story. But as a step-mother, there isn't any of that. So it's hard to build bridges, find ways to make contact. I know it's hard for the boys too. Perhaps the best we can hope for is to try to stay polite to each other."

Many step-parents agree that things often work out better if the step-children are young. When Rob Fletcher married Julie, she was divorced with a two-year-old daughter. Charlotte is now eight and the Fletchers have had two more children, Nicholas, four, and Lauren, three. Rob says: "There was never any chance of ignoring Charlotte's presence — instead of Julie and I just going out during the courtship period, there was always this other body that one had to make arrangements for.

"As the relationship with Julie developed, she made it quite clear that if I married her I'd be taking on a package deal, and I accepted that. It was easier for me than for many men in the same position, because Charlotte was so young. I was a bit worried about what she would call

me, but she solved the problem by calling me daddy quite spontaneously. There's this feeling that kids can have two daddies, but that I can't be her father.

"Actually meeting her father used to be a big worry for me. When he came to see her I never used to know whether I should be around or not. Eventually I did face him and it was all right, but the whole thing definitely made me feel anxious. I also had to come to terms with the fact that there was maintenance coming in. I felt guilty about that. I suppose part of me felt that if we didn't have to see him either, we wouldn't have to see him either. But of course it wasn't like that.

"Another thing that brought the situation home to me was when we had our own child. I realized that I felt differently about him. I had to admit that to Julie — but she said she had expected it, and that was a great relief.

"I do love Charlotte, but in a different way. It's just not so intense at certain levels. I think she loves me. When she's giggled she sometimes tells me I'm not her real daddy, but I like to kid myself that

me. but she solved the problem by calling me daddy quite spontaneously. There's this feeling that kids can have two daddies, but that I can't be her father.

she must feel really secure with me to be able to say that to my face.

"If you are going to marry someone who already has children, you have to talk about it. You can't kid yourself that it will be the same as for people who haven't got children. It's not even the same as adopting a child; that's a decision you make together and you learn about that child together. But when you become a step-parent there is an existing relationship between a child and an adult and you are intruding."

So is it all worthwhile? Christine Atkinson says: "My answer to this question would be an emphatic yes, though if I were to be caught on a bad day I might hesitate."

Christine believes that the joys and pleasures of step-parenthood, however elusive, are often deeper than the joys of "normal" parenthood, for the very reason that step-parents often have to put so much more effort into the relationship.

"It is a real joy when you, as the step-parent, see a little of yourself in the children. For months you might be frustrated by the fact that these children are just the opposite of what you would like them to be. Then suddenly you might catch them quoting one of your favourite opinions, or defending certain standards which you have tried to pass on to them, but never believed they would adopt.

"This pleasure is far greater, I feel, than that which a natural parent feels, for you as a step-parent have worked so hard, often against the odds, at bringing up the family under no easy circumstances, and the rewards, when they come, mean a lot more."

She talks of the milestones — whether it is a small child climbing voluntarily on your knee, a letter addressed to you and not the "real parent", or the first time you feel fiercely protective about your step-child. "Sometimes you will look at your step-child laughing or telling a story and feel a great surge of love for no apparent reason, which sets you wondering if it's really happening at last."

Step-parenting is published by Thorsons (£4.99).

Customer's last stand

FIRST PERSON

Peter Quantin

It started innocently enough: like so much, it was my wife who began it all. She examined the dishes critically as she unloaded the dishwasher. They were quite disgusting: covered in rust marks from the machine's baskets which were corroding badly under their peeling plastic.

I immediately sanctioned their replacement, suggesting a telephone call to the service department of the machine's well-known manufacturer the next day.

Next evening, I inquired how the basket quest had gone. In her most casual tone, my wife invited me to guess what price she had been quoted for their replacement. "Ten pounds?" "Try again."

"Twenty pounds?" "Try again."

"I give up." "£83.36p, including VAT and carriage."

The girl in the service department shared my disbelief and insisted on re-checking the price. When she called back, she could do little else but confirm the bad news. I think it was Lord Beaverbrook who was responsible for first printing the little red crusader on the front page of the Daily Express. I forget exactly what crusade it was meant to symbolize, but at this point I nailed my crusading self to my personal masthead. "Leave it to me," I said. "I absolutely guarantee that I will obtain those baskets for a fraction of the quoted price."

The girl in the service department seemed as good a place as anywhere to start. She exuded sympathy as before, but it was clear that her authority did not extend to departing from the official price list.

The best technique in such cases is to work up through the hierarchy by constant repeating: "If you can't take the decision, who can?" This produced, commendably quickly, the Service Manager.

Equally quickly, it was clear that the Service Manager did not appreciate that there was anything odd or unreasonable — let alone commercially damaging — in charging approximately one-third of the original cost of the machine for two miserable baskets.

I tried every kind of argument. All were to no avail. Yes, that was the price. No, the price was not unreasonable. Yes, as far as he was concerned I could write to PFI&S, Esther Rantzen, and every consumer protection organization this side of the North Pole.

Yes, I could take the problem to the Managing Director, but there was absolutely no question of the Managing Director taking a line other than one completely coincident with his own.

The Managing Director turned out to be no mere Managing Director, but the Chairman and Chief Executive. I pondered on the best method of attack. A detailed

letter had often proved effective in the past. But this meant a tedious relating of events so far. I decided on a direct approach.

The success of a direct approach depends on being able to corner the attention of the target on the telephone for sufficient time to relate the substance of one's complaint. However, to get at the target, one must first break through the secretary barrier.

Bitter experience has taught me that one should never leave a message but be prepared to ring back repeatedly in order to trap one's antagonist at his desk. Equally, only as a last resort should one show one's hand in detail to his secretary.

The Chairman and Chief Executive was no exception to the general rule. He was on the telephone; he was in meetings, the frequency and length of which must have had no parallels outside the Geneva disarmament negotiations; he was away for several days/a week/several weeks on an overseas trip. Finally, I could bear it no longer. I broke all my rules, recounted the story to his secretary and left it at that.

A long period of silence ensued. I began to fear that this particular campaign was to be my Waterloo. But one afternoon the telephone rang in my office. (To avoid accusations of hypocrisy, I ought to emphasize that my telephone calls come straight through to my desk.)

The Chairman was on the line. It appeared, he said, that we had a problem. Did he mean, I cautiously answered, that he had a problem or I had a problem? He was succinct and polite. The problem was his. Clearly, he admitted, the price quoted for the baskets was outrageous.

My spirits rose; I could see the dust of the US Cavalry on the horizon. It remained only to accept the surrender of the Indian chief.

What did I think a reasonable price would be? A burst of bazaar bargaining followed. We settled on £30. My thanks and his apologies were profuse.

As I walked in the door that evening, I could hardly contain myself sufficiently to tell the story with the correct degree of casualness over the first course of dinner. Generous applause followed from my audience of one.

The box containing the baskets was there a few nights later. As I unpacked them proudly and installed them in the machine, I knew just how Wellington felt. It had been a classic campaign. But it had also been a damned close-run thing.

THE PITFALLS AND HOW TO AVOID THEM

Before becoming a step-parent:

- Discuss with your partner the basics of bringing up children. Do you agree on bedtime, TV, responsibilities, schooling, punishment?
- Get to know the children before marriage.
- Practice spending time as a "family" — perhaps taking a short holiday together.
- Agree on the practicalities — where to live, finances, whether the wife will work or not, having more children, choosing names.

Once you are a step-parent:

- Agree on explicit house-rules.
- Try to find time, no matter how short, to talk as a family.
- Remember that clashes are common in all families: they just tend to be more intense in step-families.
- The National Step-family Association has been set up to help all members of step-families. You can reach a local group through the head office at Room 3, Ross Street Community Centre, Ross Street, Cambridge, CB1 3BS (0223 356322)

Playgroup danger to the pregnant

Because play groups and good nursery schools are held to be essential to a child's education, parents have been happy to tolerate the germs their children bring from them. But a report in the New England Journal of Medicine has demonstrated that the pool of infection created when children of this age group congregate contains organisms more sinister than the acceptable coughs and colds.

A virus close to the herpes group, the cytomegalovirus, is causing particular interest as its spread from playgroup children to their mothers has been shown to be an important cause of adult infection. This is of concern as CMV infection in the pregnant woman is one of the causes of congenital infection in the foetus, leading to hearing loss, cerebral palsy or mental retardation in children. It is estimated that CMV causes 400 cases of brain damage in England each year.

Dr Robert Pass from the Alabama School of Medicine, who carried out the investigation, points out that it is common for a second pregnancy to occur while the first child is of pre-school age. In the series of cases he studied he found that of 67 mothers who sent their children to a playgroup, 14 became infected with CMV. Of the 31 mothers who didn't, none caught the virus.

Beating the heat The Prince of Wales, playing polo, and boxer Barry McGuigan, fighting in the world feather-weight championship, both suffered from dehydration after

ter exercising in the unaccustomed heat of the southern states of America. The English football team, despite the problems of low blood oxygen caused by the altitude in Mexico, fared better, suffering only from a nasty attack of Maradona.

Dr Dene Eggleston, an expert in sports medicine at the London Hospital said that at least three weeks is needed to adjust to a marked change in climate, or altitude, before a games player can compete on equal terms with local people. The newcomers' blood adapts quickly so that within a week to 10 days his oxygen-carrying capacity is comparable to that of the residents, but it takes weeks for the enzyme systems of the muscles to achieve full efficiency. The sweating mechanism also takes at least three weeks to become accustomed to a hot climate. During this time the body's electrolyte levels (sodium, potassium, bicarbonate and so on) can easily become unbalanced.

However prolonged and arduous the training, some temperatures are so high, and some exercise so violent, that dehydration is inevitable. Few boxers would remain unscathed after fighting 15 rounds when the daytime temperature is over 115°C.

Dehydration and subsequent heat exhaustion can be countered by maintaining circulation with frequent drinks of slightly salty water. Television viewers will have seen the water bags brought on by substitutes during the World Cup. Salt tablets have the disadvantage that they cause gastric dehydration and nausea.

Medical BRIEFING

we to exercise at about 60 per cent of their peak activity. The West German team, for example, lie on their backs and do leg exercises one session, perhaps, why they have reached the final. This also stimulates the circulation, particularly in the quadriceps thigh muscles, thereby speeding the removal of the lactic acid, phosphates and potassium which collect after violent exercise and cause pain and stiffness.

Not so dear Hards of domesticated red deer grazing in the English countryside may make engaging press pictures, but they could also provide a reservoir for the deer tick, Ixodes dammini, which transmits the spirochaete Borrelia burgdorferi, the organism which causes Lyme disease in susceptible people. This disease, which can lead to arthritis, meningitis and heart disease, is a newcomer to Britain, but has been spreading rapidly in those heavily wooded districts of America which have a high deer population.

The disease was first diagnosed in Lyme, Connecticut, in 1975. Since then it has spread rapidly along the north-eastern American coastline from Massachusetts to Maryland. It is now also well established in Wisconsin and on the West Coast in California and Oregon. Cases have been recorded in all age groups and at all times of the year, but the disease seems to have a predilection for children and young adults and usually strikes in the autumn. Treatment of the acute stage is with penicillin or tetracyclines.

The British Medical Journal recently reported the second British case, a boy aged nine from the New Forest area who had been bitten by a tick while visiting a country park. He was treated in Southampton.

Lyme disease starts as a red, often raised, spot near the site of the original tick bite; the mark slowly increases in size and can sometimes reach a diameter of 50cm, the Hampshire boy's was 30cm across. In half the cases other spots appear elsewhere.

Fortunately the nature of the countryside makes a problem of the American scale unlikely, but British community physicians are watching with interest.

Pill precaution Regular readers of Medical Briefing will have been aware for some years of the possibility of an association between Rey's syndrome and aspirin so that they will be used to treating their children's minor ills with paracetamol (Panadol).

Child health experts, while agreeing that this change is an essential precaution, have emphasized recently that although paracetamol in the correct dose is an exceptional safe drug, overdose could cause severe liver damage.

Children, weight for weight, tolerate paracetamol better

than adults. Professor Peter Sever of St Mary's Hospital is quoted in Pulse as suggesting that a child has to take about 10 times the recommended dosage to suffer liver damage; this is unlikely to follow careless administration, but could easily happen if the drug was left where a toddler might find it. Paracetamol, even more than aspirin, needs to be kept out of the reach of children.

Sunshine risk Dermatologists worry so much about excessive sunlight that one well known consultant brought his children up behind drawn curtains. Although his colleagues thought his zeal excessive, no doctor would disagree that the present epidemic of malignant melanoma and other skin cancers is the result of office workers burning themselves during their annual holidays. Burning, and hence the risk of skin cancer, is a greater risk in fair or red headed people with a sensitive skin which initially reddens rather than browns. They should take particular care to tan slowly and always use a good sun screening lotion.

A report in the British Medical Journal by a team of doctors from Edinburgh and Glasgow has shown that another group can now be added to those who have to take particular care. An extensive study has revealed that people with a large number of benign moles are very much more likely to develop malignant melanoma than their spotless counterparts. They should now join anyone with a Nordic complexion under the sunshades.

Dr Thomas Stuttford

Deer: mite worse than its bark

HEAL'S SALE

Up to 20% off Michael Tyler Upholstery in Standard Fabrics and Leathers
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17½% off Hulsta Living and Bedroom Fitted Furniture, 15% off Interlubke Fitted Furniture
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THE TIMES DIARY

A watch on the box

Conservative supporters reduced to nightly apoplexy by pro-left bias on television can take heart: the Tories are to set up their own broadcasting monitoring unit.

Blacked out

So afraid have examiners become of offending ethnic minorities that the word "Christmas" has been expunged from a specimen question paper.

Deflected

While at the RAF Club the other evening, who should spot halfway up the stairs and looking uncharacteristically lost, but Robert Maxwell.

Overwhelmed

For perhaps the first time in living memory, the nosegay traditionally presented to ladies on royal visits was put to its originally intended use yesterday.

BARRY FANTONI



"You wake up wanting to see your medical records? Don't worry, there's a lot of it about"

Laser edge

I detect a new dimension in art education. The Royal College of Art, under the trusting leadership of Jocelyn Stevens, is now exploring the use of holograms, three-dimensional laser images.

Pumped up

Readers are usually so helpful in my researches on cricket, but this time you have disappointed me. Two days ago I cited the figure of 62 as being the record number of runs scored in a single over.

PHS

Privatization has become one of the world's growth industries. Governments everywhere - in the advanced economies, the Third World, even communist - are divesting themselves of state holdings and activities.

After John Moore's pledge to sell off all state undertakings, Madsen Pirie shows how privatization has swept the world

British made - and exported everywhere

Canada decided to sell its loss-making airline makers, Canadian and de Havilland, and Teleglobe Canada. Its privatization of the Canadian Arsenal, an arms manufacturing company, does not seem to have encountered the problems which led George Younger to delay the sale of the Royal Ordnance factories.

World Bank consultant Elliot Berg has identified 30 cases of divestiture of state-owned enterprises in Africa, not counting the privatization of Sasol, the oil-from-coal refineries in South Africa.

The cases are as diverse as the systems of government. Bangladesh has sold most of its jute, textile, chemical and engineering industries. Pakistan has privatized rural rice, cotton and flour mills.

Private food production in Hungary now accounts for half the total, and people are being invited to bid for the right to run state enterprises for profit.

The one fact trumpeted about President Reagan's nominees to the US Supreme Court - William Rehnquist to succeed Warren Burger as Chief Justice, and Antonin Scalia to be an associate justice - is that they are both politically conservative in the Reagan mould.

Chief Justice Burger, appointed by Nixon to reverse the liberalism of his predecessor

Rehnquist in the same mould as Reagan - but he need not be a slave to ideology

them through his powers of nomination to the federal courts. That influence will extend long after the Reagan presidency ends.

Indeed, Americans are puzzled by the British system which allows a transient majority (or even minority) government to abrogate rights through parliamentary sovereignty.

Interest in the Rehnquist/Scalia nominations is running high since the Supreme Court is likely to consider a number of issues close to President Reagan's heart in the next couple of years.

Warsaw Two months after the Chernobyl disaster, Soviet bloc countries are reaffirming their faith in nuclear power and are planning a new generation of 1,000 megawatt reactors.

At a demonstration in Cracow earlier this month a young Pole held a placard on which was scrawled "Chernobyl is everywhere - except in the East".

There are, of course, committed anti-nuclear groups, for example East German church groups influenced by the success of the Greens in West Germany.

The general unrest puts more pressure, even on closed communist systems, to explain and defend. Almost 3,000 residents of

into a private sector operation. In the Pacific Basin, Korean Airlines and Singapore Airlines have already been floated with the Malaysian Airlines System hard behind.

A communist government in China manages to get privately-owned restaurants and shops starting up at four times the rate of their state counterparts.

A military government in Chile sells shares in Chilectra, the state power company, and in the insurance companies which handle what was once state welfare.

Nominally socialist Spain sells SEAT, the national car manufacturer, while at the other end of Europe the rather more right-wing government of Turkey sells the Kevan hydro-electric dam and even the Bosphorus Bridge.

Simon Lee contrasts the US Supreme Court with the British system

Where justice is sovereign



Chief Justice Burger, appointed by Nixon to reverse the liberalism of his predecessor



Rehnquist in the same mould as Reagan - but he need not be a slave to ideology

successful, Eisenhower thought he was on to a right-winger in Earl Warren, who then established a reputation as the paradigm of liberal justice.

This does not mean that Supreme Court judges have complete discretion to implement personal values. They might feel constrained by some vision of what is proper to their judicial role.

repressing. Some East European Greens say that the security of these cross-border transportations needs to be scrutinized.

Among Soviet bloc countries the Soviet Union has the greatest nuclear capacity, with 85 reactors in use or under construction.

As in the West these protesters are also opposed to missiles and have their own internal problems of ideology and strategy.

The fact that Poland and Hungary are in the early stages of nuclear power development presents possible advantages for both sides.

Even so, Soviet bloc countries are beginning to be forced into the open on nuclear issues.

constitution wisely spoke in general language and left to succeeding generations the task of applying their language to the unceasingly changing environment in which they would live.

The second lesson is that, once in office, Supreme Court judges rise above their previous political affiliations where they think fit.

The third conclusion is that, however strange it seems from this side of the Atlantic, the system works. That does not mean that we should automatically adopt an American style Bill of Rights and Supreme Court.

The author is lecturer in law at King's College London.

Roger Boyes

Singapore Airlines. It might be by private sale, as with Mexico's hotels. It might be a management-worker buyout, as with Britain's National Freight Corporation, or the use of private contractors, as with American prisons.

Some governments, like ours, do it inspired by a belief in free enterprise. These are comparatively rare. Many, like Bangladesh, do it because it works better, turning state loss makers into private, profitable and tax-paying enterprises.

Some, like Mexico and Brazil, do it to reduce national deficits. Privatized companies produce state revenues instead of consuming them. They enable state spending to be cut.

China and France do it to turn their countries around. South Korea and Singapore do it to keep them on course.

The world is turning private, and the policy machinery which is turning it that way was made in Britain just as we made so much of the physical machinery of the first industrial revolution.

The author is president of the Adam Smith Institute.

Can Britain stir EEC unity?

The spectacle of the EEC heads of government, united in grandiose denunciation of South Africa while competing to keep their individual commercial concerns off the economic sanctions list, has been the main feature of this week's summit meeting at The Hague.

Two other recent incidents - Sir Wars and Gaddafi - illustrate the same point. In the first the Europeans recognized, collectively, that President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative was strongly against the European interest because, if successful, it would leave them at the mercy of Soviet conventional superiority.

Luckily none of these incidents has proved to be a calamity. Economic sanctions against South Africa will not make an atom of difference to what happens there; SDI is probably an expensive pipe-dream in any case.

Can anything be done about this? The question now passes to the British government. Britain assumes the six-month presidency of the EEC on July 1 - an opportunity for influence which will not recur for another six years.

moreover... Miles Kingston

Boutons that had them in stitches

You sometimes read that expressionless line in a newspaper to the effect that "Miles Kingston is on holiday".

Medical science has recently come up with the finding that going on holiday is one of the most stressful activities known to man.

In fact you could probably rephrase that terse announcement to "Miles Kingston at this moment is wondering just why he is embarking on a holiday when he could be relaxing at a typewriter".

One is that the French need a lot of comfort at the moment after being knocked out of the World Cup, and who better to supply comfort than someone from Britain, where we have had no fewer than four national teams knocked out of the World Cup?

Well, messieurs, you had better not leave without me this time, that's all I can say.

with the US, development of the internal common market, especially in services, the attempt to co-ordinate some alleviation of unemployment... all these are on the agenda.

The Omens are not encouraging. For one thing, the size and historical diversity of the Community, and the complexity of the interests involved, are capable of defeating anyone.

For one thing, the size and historical diversity of the Community, and the complexity of the interests involved, are capable of defeating anyone.

Perhaps by 1992 this battle will be decided, but until it is we cannot really expect to lead Europe to a more effective unity.

bar, the whole place fell silent as the company stared at us with that hooded curiosity of which the French seem so fond.

"Oui," I said, "mais nous n'avons pas pu trouver les boutons."

To my surprise this produced a gale of laughter from the entire company. Obviously I had said something pretty funny.

Finally a convivial pair of fishermen hinted that what I had said was, if not downright obscene, at least highly so, and that boutons were normally referred to in polite company.

Well, messieurs, you had better not leave without me this time, that's all I can say.

Miles Kingston is now tossing about in the Channel.

David Watt
Britain stir
C unity?

الجمهورية الجزائرية الديمقراطية الشعبية



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A SPECIAL CASE

Birkbeck College is the only institution in higher education, apart from the Open University, which is dedicated to part-time degrees for adults. Its students are people who give up their own time and effort in order to improve themselves and their prospects in life. They are the very model of modern Thatcherites. (devoutly though many of them would reject that description), the unconscious bearers of Victorian values, adherents (despite themselves) of Samuel Smiles' *Self-Help*. Mrs Thatcher's father would have been proud of them.

exclusively geared to full-timers, the college's funds would be cut drastically - by something like 30 per cent over four years. Birkbeck contends that this would effectively guarantee its closure. The UGC disputes that the effect would be quite so drastic and wants Birkbeck to support its broad argument with detailed figures - which the college will have to do. But the crude figures - which show that the UGC plan would mean a cut in funding per part-time student from the present 0.8 per cent of a full-timer to the proposed 0.5 per cent - are gloomy enough to establish that Birkbeck does indeed face severe retrenchment. That is unjustifiable. Birkbeck can cite virtues other than the self-reliance of its students. It educates them efficiently - namely, they finish their courses when a fault of much adult education is that students drift on for years. It educates them to a higher academic standard than its competitors like the Open University. And, finally, it educates them cheaply.

It is a plain contradiction of this government's rhetoric of self-improvement. It would also conflict with its recent stress on the importance of training and vocational education since adult students, when selecting a course of education, tend to place greater weight on its usefulness for their careers. It is a mockery of the concern expressed by Ministers for the education of mature students. In only one respect is the likely closure of Birkbeck in line with the government's conservative philosophy. It is an unintended consequence of reform. It demonstrates that the wholesale application of a rational plan, drawn up by a centralized bureaucracy and applied without regard to local circumstances, will occasionally produce odd and indefensible results. Mr Kenneth Baker should not shrink from telling the UGC plainly that financial rationalisation must on this occasion be subordinated to the need to encourage - or at least not to discourage - higher education for mature students. Birkbeck is a special case. If necessary, let it be treated as one.

GUARDING THE GUARDIANS

In Belfast and Manchester, the Stalker affair gathers momentum, mostly propelled by accumulating rumour. In Israel, the chief of the Shin Bet and three of his deputies, resigned and have been granted immunity from prosecution in connection with the death of two Arab bus hijackers. Both episodes bring to the fore key issues raised in democratic societies by prolonged confrontations between governments and terrorists. The resignations in Israel may effectively close the matter, since there will now be no substantive inquiry into the circumstances of the deaths and the subsequent concealment or manipulation of evidence about what happened. The opposite appears to be the case with the two investigations connected with Mr Stalker's name. It is plain that much more information is destined to emerge and it is plainly right that, given the combination of fact and conjecture so far, a fuller story should be available. These events should be judged against underlying principles of profound importance.

killings during the last three months of the year, almost as many as in the previous nine months. During that autumn, six men died at the hands of policemen in three incidents which are the subject of the investigation carried out by Mr Stalker and now continued under Mr Sampson. One subsequent trial heard evidence - so far uncontested - that a police constable had been instructed by his superiors to lie to the court about what had happened. It was suggested that this concoction was designed to protect an informer, to conceal unauthorised crossing of the border with the Republic and to avoid giving away damaging details of undercover operations. Such secrecy could also, however, put a significant section of a police force beyond the reach of accountability. In doing so it could undermine the very basis of society's moral defence against subversion: democratic accountability, both of the law and its guardians. If a society facing terrorist threats wishes to make use of that defence, it is in no position to allow police forces to create forces-within-forces operating by different, secret rules which are to be concealed by perjury.

different standards and then claim higher, secret reasons of state for hiding their actions. The key decisions in the Stalker case are yet to come, but it is already clear that whatever the outcome of any prosecutions which may yet be authorised by the Northern Ireland Director of Public Prosecutions, there will have to be some form of additional inquiry into the circumstances surrounding Mr Stalker's enforced absence from duty at a critical stage in his RUC investigation. These areas may be hard to investigate, but that does not remove the need for every effort to be taken to eliminate the doubts which have now been planted in the public mind. They have been planted by the following simple equation. If it is coincidental that Mr Stalker was taken off the inquiry, it is indeed one of the most extraordinary conjunctions of unrelated events. If it is not coincidental, what lies behind the apparently insubstantial matters which precipitated his being replaced? If no prosecutions emerge from the main inquiry conducted in Northern Ireland, a further inquiry will also be necessary. In the absence of evidence which the DPP might consider adequate to take to court, there is still much to be learnt which will be of value in shaping security policy in the future. There have been many inquiries into police and army behaviour in Northern Ireland during the present troubles and while they have never succeeded in satisfying everybody, almost all of them have dug up necessary information and influenced future conduct. Above all, they have enhanced that visible accountability which is at the heart of policing a free society.

CONTRA NICARAGUA

Whatever else it may be, the approval by the United States House of Representatives of a \$100m aid package for the rebels in Nicaragua is a victory of some political significance for President Reagan. Only two years ago the same House was leading a move to end military help for the Contras. In March this year, driven by opposition Democrats, it threw out the Reagan package. Now it has changed its mind. The vote was always in doubt. The accompanying promise of more civil aid for the Central American democracies must have helped swing many waverers to his cause. But if it was a compromise, it was not so much of one that it should detract from the nature of the President's triumph on the Hill. The impact of the \$100m upon political life in Washington is arguably greater than that on the military situation in Nicaragua. Of the total sum, only about two-thirds is for military purposes. What it does, however, is to reinforce the twin-track American policy in the region - namely, encouraging the diplomatic solution still sought by the Contadora powers, while underpinning the Contras in their military struggle. The overall strategy seems to be to

gain some essential political leverage. Whether or not this signals the beginning of the end for Contadora as Washington puts more muscle behind the military option is a matter for argument. It does not look likely at present that the \$100 million will lead in itself to a military victory for the Contras. They are stronger in numbers than in their organization. Their appeal to the ordinary Nicaraguan is in doubt. And their internal divisions make them difficult allies to deal with. Still, it should be remembered that guerrilla forces, including the Sandinistas, have sometimes achieved remarkable victories from such unpromising beginnings. What the aid package will do, however, is to help enable the Contras to maintain pressure on the Sandinista government in Managua and keep the regime on the defensive. It will force the regime to increase its armed forces - when it is already running into unpopularity over conscription. And it will damage the Nicaraguan economy, already in difficulties with half its annual budget being spent on its armed forces. Without this pressure, the Sandinistas would undoubtedly use the time to

consolidate a revolutionary dictatorship. They know that, if the Contras can be neutralised, time is on their side. They are also unlikely to fear diplomatic isolation, notably from the United States. Fidel Castro, after all, has survived it, albeit with support from the Soviet Union. But continuing military opposition from the largest guerrilla force in Central America - however disunited is a severe obstacle in the way of long-term Sandinista ambitions. At worst the war being prosecuted by the Contras will delay the Sandinistas in their consolidation of a Marxist state on the Central American isthmus. At best it might even prevent such a regime from ever taking hold. But that would certainly entail a constructive political settlement acceptable to other countries in the region as well as to the United States. The verdict on the this week's vote in the House must be - so far, so good. But it does not represent an end in itself - only a means to an end. Washington will need to raise the tempo of its diplomatic activity too if it is to prevent the contingency it most fears.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Pay barrier in prosecution service

From Mr M. R. Swift
Sir, There is no need whatever for the crown prosecution service to be hampered in its work of prosecuting in the magistrates' court (report, June 23). If the CPS cannot find enough solicitors willing to prosecute there for £250 per day, where is the logic in refusing to employ barristers who have repeatedly offered to do the same work for £120 per day? Contrary to the reported assertions of the crown prosecutor for West Yorkshire, there is an ample sufficiency of suitable members of the Bar throughout the country ready, able and willing to do the job. Instead of accepting the offered services of the Bar, the Government refuses to offer barristers more than £85 per day and prefers to triple its expenditure on lawyers' services by employing solicitors whilst at the same time failing to attract enough solicitors to do the work. How does a Government committed to cutting public expenditure justify such astonishing behaviour? The answer is quite simple. To pay barristers more than £85 for a day in the magistrates' court would highlight the paucity of the fees currently paid to barristers in the crown court, a situation which has already embarrassed the Government in the action by the Bar against the Lord Chancellor. Surely common sense, sound financial management and declared government policy demand the employment of barristers for this work, both in the interests of economy and of efficiency. Yours faithfully, MALCOLM SWIFT, 10 Park Square, Leeds. June 24.

Tourist threat to the cheetah

From Sir Christopher Lever
Sir, Your Science Report (June 21) rightly draws attention to the plight of the cheetah in Africa, where its status is officially classified by the World Wildlife Fund as "vulnerable". In many countries, however, it is not only a lack of genetic variability that is causing concern for the cheetah's survival; one of its greatest threats is the increase in tourism. The cheetah is a timid creature which, especially when with cubs, needs to kill daily in order to survive. Whenever a cheetah is observed stalking its prey it is all too often immediately surrounded by mini-buses loaded with tourists, all anxious to witness the magnificent sight of the animal in full flight after its quarry. This, however, they seldom see, since the shy cheetah almost invariably abandons its hunt, with the resulting starvation of its cubs. The African drivers cannot be blamed for acting as their clients demand. The only feasible solution, which I have long advocated, is for governmental wildlife and tourism departments in Africa to forbid all vehicles from approaching within a hundred yards of any cheetah. This would not only increase the tourists' chances of seeing the animal making its kill, but would also help to ensure the survival of this beautiful but declining cat. Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER LEVER, Newell House, Winkfield, Berkshire.

Sex education

From Mrs Victoria Gillick
Sir, Alastair Service, of the Family Planning Association claims in his letter (June 20) that there is no sound research evidence that contraceptive information encourages schoolchildren to experiment with sex. Of course he is quite correct. For it is the combination of contraceptive information plus their free and secret supply to under-age girls, that has encouraged young men into ever more frequent acts of unlawful sex with them. A survey of GPs has revealed that nowadays they prescribe the Pill to around 60,000 under-age girls annually - double what it was 10 years ago. So perhaps the time has come for the old guard in the birth-control world to quietly and judiciously bow out of the education scene. Their revolution has achieved its dubious goal, and it remains for pickers, better adjusted and qualified to pick up the pieces of young lives, so horribly coarsened and debauched, diseased and devalued by that cynical breed of elders. Let those who actually believe in sexual morality, marriage and family life teach such things to the young. Mere lip service - even in *The Times* - never fooled anyone. Yours faithfully, VICTORIA GILICK, 2 Old Market, Wisbech, Cambridgeshire. June 20.

No case to answer

From the Town Clerk of South Ribblesdale Council
Sir, Recent conversations have brought to light an apparent warning on the part of the younger members of the Bar at the ambitions of barristers employed by local authorities to secure improved rights of audience as counsel in the lower courts. These ambitions exist. They have been the subject of constant debate for decades, with varying results. Our objective has been to reduce the element of disadvantage which employed barristers have suffered in comparison with our solicitor colleagues who, qua solicitors, have the right to appear before the magistrates and the county court. The fear would appear to be that if barristers employed, say, in the legal section of a local authority, have the right to appear in the magistrates' and county courts levels for developing countries; may I suggest that a ceiling on interest rates on domestic loans might be an even better idea. We might then have a sufficiently strong economy to help the developing countries even more. There would of course be some difficulty in fixing the ceiling, but surely rates of up to 30 per cent and more, such as are being quoted, are quite unacceptable but are presumably the only way to cover the losses which occur with debtors unable to meet their obligations. Since, in my view, such loans should never have been made, I have little sympathy for the lenders. As such loans seem to be little more than gambling, and gambling debts are not enforceable a simple way to operate such a ceiling would be to make a loan agreement at above the ceiling rate unenforceable in the courts. Yours faithfully, A. E. WATSON, 12 Bourne Road, Colsterworth, Grantham, Lincolnshire. June 11.

Student loans

From Dr John Nicholson
Sir, I am writing to comment on your support (leading article, June 19) for the introduction of student loans on the grounds that *inter alia*, graduates' "lifetime earnings are likely to be substantially enhanced by their degrees". It is my experience, though admittedly anecdotal, that this is not so. I have a twin brother, who started work immediately after A levels; at the same time, by contrast, I began reading for a degree. That separated us economically, and now, some 13 years on, we remain separated. Despite my honours degree, and subsequent PhD in chemistry, I still earn only some 75 per cent of my brother's salary, and my prospects of catching him up, still less of overtaking him, are minimal. Yet I am relatively well off, since I have been promoted quickly, and by comparison with my contemporary graduates who became teachers, I am embarrassingly wealthy. I am not complaining about my lot. As Bernard Levin points out elsewhere in the same edition of *The Times*, there are other forms of poverty than the merely financial, and I value the education I have had, to the extent that, had it been necessary, I would have willingly repaid a student loan for it. Nevertheless, I resent the implication that a being a graduate *ipso facto* opens the way to massive earnings. That is fallacious and does nothing to enhance your otherwise well reasoned argument in favour of student loans. Yours faithfully, JOHN NICHOLSON, 63 Morland Close, Hursley, Hampshire, Middlesex. June 19.

British Gas price

From Mr R. F. Knight
Sir, It would be interesting to discover whether the Government have considered why the Crichef Down principles should not apply to British Gas particularly as the 3 per cent British Gas Stock now stands at 77%. Is it possible that the Treasury is considering repaying this stock at par now as they are disposing of the assets which were acquired with this paper? Yours faithfully, R. F. KNIGHT, Veyfield Road, Harman Cross, Wareham, Dorset.

Change in S Africa

From Bishop D. R. Feaver
Sir, The Prime Minister, beset these days by much overheated exhortation, could take some comfort from her predecessor, Lord Salisbury, whom Queen Victoria called her greatest Prime Minister, when he described the bulk of such advice as "a display of moral vanity masquerading as virtue". He would add that a man, and a politician too, should always try to do right but never count on doing good. With the results the door has nothing to do. Political and personal perception is hereby sharpened, and good sense saved from the excesses of sentimentality. Yours faithfully, D. R. FEAVAR, 10 Spens Avenue, Gough Way, Cambridge.

Interest rate curb

From Mr A. E. Watson
Sir, I do not pretend to understand fully the various M1, 2 and 3s banded about on your financial pages, but one thing seems obvious to me: this country is moving rapidly from a property-owning society to a debt-ridden society. We seem to be heading to, if we have not already reached, a South Sea Bubble situation and I fear that the end will be the same as in 1720 but with far worse results, since the unsecured debts are much more widely spread. The banks and financial institutions, having over-extended themselves in the international market, now seem determined to do the same in the domestic market. At least once a week, and sometimes more often, I receive unsolicited offers to lend me money to buy unnecessary goods at exorbitant rates of interest. I put them straight into the wastepaper basket, but it seems from the article by Kenneth Fleet today (June 11) that many are being inveigled into taking out such loans. I see that Mr Hattersley yesterday suggested a ceiling on interest rates at concessionary

Hampton Court lines

From Miss Ann Gate
Sir, Mr Matthews (June 23) is right. *Tilia cordata* is a more graceful tree than its large-leaved relative. It would, however, be inappropriate to plant it at Hampton Court. Mr Matthews should take note of Dr Oliver Rackham's words in *The History of the Countryside* (1986): "Part of the value of the native lime tree [i.e. *Tilia cordata*] lies in the meaning embodied in its mysterious natural distribution; it is devalued by being made into a universal tree." Yours faithfully, ANN GATE, Bell Cottage, Church Street, Charlbury, Oxfordshire.

Signs and portents

From Mr S. J. Blenkinsop
Sir, Your report (June 21, early edition), that the Chief Constable of North Wales has refused requests for his police car signs to be in Welsh as well as English reminded me of my recent visit to that area of the principality. It was most noticeable that only one group of English signs had invariably escaped the attentions of those Welsh nationalists who over-paint such versions with their Welsh equivalent. The signs read: "Bed and breakfast". Yours sincerely, STANLEY J. BLENKINSOP, Wingrove, 57 Macclesfield Road, Wilmslow, Cheshire.

Ordination of women

From the Rev Francis Edwards, SJ
Sir, As your leader of June 20 pointed out, what are taken to be Jesuitical skills may not help the Church of England in its present dilemma created by the proposed ordination of women. An undeniable truth was clarified, namely that ever since Anglicanism was established by the authority of the Sovereign in Parliament - still its supreme authority - by the two Acts of 1559 the character of that Church has been essentially Protestant; indeed Calvinist by the original 39 Articles. The Test Act of 1672 included an oath "that there is not any transubstantiation in the sacrament of the Lord's Supper... at or after the consecration thereof by any person whatsoever". This general trend against the Catholic doctrine of priesthood

continued until the 19th century Oxford Movement. This maintained with zeal and not without learning that their Church had never lost its essential Catholic nature even in a sense recognisable by Rome. Many believed, unlike Newman and his friends who crossed the divide, that the catholicising movement would leave the lump until the Church of England as a body would be ready to seek reunion. The *Times* leader is a fair indication of the overall failure of this movement. At most the Anglo-Catholics can claim a 20 per cent allegiance. Further, "the Romanist who prays for the Pope knows he belongs with the ardent Protestant in the same religious family; and he knows what he can do if he does not like it, too". It is now time for Anglo-Catholics as a body to ask themselves if they should not "like" the

Sale of the century

From Mr M. E. T. Tiley
Sir, While I was looking for a suitable birthday card for my centenarian grandfather last week, I was astonished to find that a near by small newsagent had a selection of no less than four different preprinted cards for 100 year olds. Is longevity a Bloomsbury phenomenon? Yours faithfully, MIKE TILEY, University College London, Gower Street, WC1. June 23.

ON THIS DAY

JUNE 27 1826
Our correspondent writes from Appleby but many readers of this extract may have the impression that he was doing so from Eatonville. The election was won by Viscount Lougher, later 2nd Earl, *conservator* (1878-1879). On this occasion, as in 1818 and 1820, his opponent was Henry Brougham who achieved eminence as Baron Brougham and Vaux (1778-1868), Lord Chancellor 1830-34. The parties at that period had not adopted a uniform, national colour; Lougher, the Tory, sported yellow; throughout the country blue, orange, pink and purple were among the hues worn indiscriminately by Tory and Whig.

GENERAL ELECTION

WESTMORELAND
Appleby, Third Day, June 24.
Party feeling is at present running extremely high in this town. A blue and a yellow, unless they are not resident in the county, are seldom seen to speak amicably to each other. Neutrality is not admitted by either party, and he who ventures to profess it, is looked upon as a spy and an enemy by both. An anecdote, which was current in the town, was that a freesholder who was extremely zealous in the cause he had espoused, will show, more forcibly than any words of mine can, the angry state of the public mind on both sides. A freesholder, who had got his thumb lacerated in the casual affray which took place yesterday, went to a surgeon to have it dressed. The surgeon washed the wound, prevented it from examining it. Having ascertained the nature and extent of it, he proceeded not to dress it but to inquire on which side his patient, who had lost the insignia of his party in the scuffle, had been fighting. Unfortunately, the patient has espoused the colour which was abhorred more than his own pill-boxes and potions by this electioneering surgeon. The declaration of that fact excited thoughts of revenge and punishment in his mind and he required a plaster to heal it, he determined that the poor fellow should have all the mental and bodily pains of having it sewed up. He had punctured the heads of several of the doctor's friends; and the doctor, thought, that as a good partisan he was obliged to avenge them as far as he justifiably could, by puncturing to the letter the unlucky hand which had punctured his own. The poll did not close until five o'clock today, and the populace, who had assembled about the hustings at four, did not appear to be over and above pleased with the prolongation of the time for taking it. They stood in crowds around it, casting bitter jokes and sarcasms at each other. A man of the name of Abbott who lives on a farm of Lord Lonsdale, at a place called Thrimby-grange, and who is, I understand, a county where all are wrestlers, placed himself in a very conspicuous station in the front of the hustings, and began from there to throw out violent and insulting language against the Blue party.... The man refused to stir, on which he was hailed with the title of a contented cuckold, by a butcher in the crowd, whilst another man told him that, if he would only send his wife to Kendal, there were plenty there ready to get for him that which he had never been able to get for himself - a parcel of young freesholders. Abbott, on hearing this abuse, became himself still more abusive, and the consequence was that three or four blues rushed upon the hustings, threw him on his back after a violent struggle, in which he exhibited uncommon strength and agility, and dragged him down the steps into the crowd. They then began to pummel him most unmercifully, and it was only by great exertions on his part that he escaped from their fury, covered with blood, into one of the yellow houses. His appearance there was the signal for a general fight. The yellows sallied out, and the sticks, which the people in this part of the county generally carry with them, were called into immediate operations. Those who were unprovided with these weapons of defence and offence, upset three or four stalls, which were standing in the market place, and by tearing the legs off, and by splitting the boards into pieces, furnished themselves with very formidable bludgeons. For a quarter of an hour, during which volleys of stones were hurled into the *melee* by the more distant combatants on both sides, the battle raged with considerable violence. The blues at length obtained a temporary superiority, and chased their opponents into the King's Head, where they broke all the windows and smashed in several of their frames. The yellows in consequence proceeded to work the same vengeance on the windows of Mr. Brougham's principal inn, the Crown and Mitre, which their opponents had before worked on the King's Head. The pavement was rooted up, and in a moment every pane of glass was demolished.

THE ARTS



Television Spanish swindles

When these slaty Welsh emigrated to Patagonia last century, sick of the English and their weather, they sailed in the belief that they were heading up in paradise. It was a belief partly instilled in them by a brochure which promised rolling green pastures where cattle lazily chewed their cud and a natural port with easy access to the world's trade routes.

Judging from last night's TV Eye (Thames), the spirit behind that brochure is alive and well and living on the Spanish coast, where this year 25,000 British will buy a place in the sun. Peter Gill's trenchant report, Sun, Sea and Swindle, examined how, for many, the dream home becomes a nightmare. One man told how, selling up and risking all, he bought a property which turned out to be a complete building site, without shops or amenities. Another how he paid £39,000 to a crooked Belgian called David who had no authority to sell, and so he had to pay twice over.

What seemed astonishing was the way in which cautious people nearing retirement were turned by the midday Spanish sun into pathological spendthrifts - without a legal document to show for it. (The programme's one shortcoming was to omit an examination of precisely what contracts were signed and why the guilty partners could not be brought to book.) Lawyers tend not to loom large in one's dreams, but to part with a life's savings on the word of some chummy Brit who says you do not need them does seem a mad-dog act.

Apparently 80 per cent of these frauds are perpetrated by our fellow countrymen. One, whom the researcher David Perrin did well to dig up, was a Captain Grimes figure in beard and shorts called Paul McCrea. His company, Headcote (sl), seemed pretty slack about paying the rent on holiday lets. "For an ex-public school boy," spluttered one of his fetching victims (like many of the women in this programme, a second wife), "he was a down-right villain." Among those whom it was alleged McCrea had not paid was an electrical wholesaler called Sid. Sitting in his villa (El Cid), he told how, on terminating his contract with McCrea, the bearded brute had broken in, changed the locks and audaciously let the house out again. Interviewed by Peter Gill, McCrea swore "I don't owe a bleeding thing" and then snatched the radio mike.

In Too Hot to Handle (Channel 4), the second of three programmes on nuclear power, William Woollard padded about various installations looking like an abominable snowman. Swallowing many of his words, he gave a brief résumé of the nuclear process, and the sense that in harnessing this power our grasp is a child's on a runaway horse. Some workmen straining from a scaffold might be enough to jeopardize a county.

Nicholas Shakespeare

Cinema Drama of action with pauses for thought

Runaway Train (18) Warner West End; Cannons Haymarket, Tottenham Court Road

Bring on the Night (PG) Prince Charles

The Money Pit (PG) Plaza

Blue Mountains ICA Cinema

Andrei Konchalovsky, the Soviet director of the epic Siberiade, spent his first four years in America working up scripts, waiting for phone-calls that never came and seeing his resources dwindle. Then, suddenly, he was embraced by Golan and Globus, boisterous entrepreneurs of Cannon Films. They financed Maria's Lovers (1984), a commercially unsuccessful portrait of postwar malaise in Pennsylvania, and backed their protégé in the present Runaway Train, a vigorous action drama with pauses for thought, nominated for three Oscars and presented in competition at Cannes. Like Whoopi Goldberg from The Colour Purple, Konchalovsky now finds himself a hot property. In Cannon's voluminous production schedule, the director is earmarked for three films: a project from his years of idleness (Shy People), a Paul Schrader script for Al Pacino and the Tom Kempinski play Duet for One. From a director wasting away through inattention, Konchalovsky has become a chame-

leon, living in a whirlwind, his creative personality under threat.

In Runaway Train, at least, Konchalovsky manages a tentative balance between the demands of American market forces and his own sensibility. The film offers all the straightforward excitement expected when a driverless train thunders through the Alaskan wastes with two escaped convicts and a token girl (a railway employee conveniently asleep when the driver suffers his fatal heart-attack). Action switches back and forth from the passengers variously jousting with fate to the authorities computing disasters ahead: an obstructing goods train, a rickety bridge, an industrial plant at the end of the line that would send toxic chemicals "from here to Kansas".

But Konchalovsky, working from a script by Kurosawa much adapted by other hands, is not content with simple American thrills and spills. Characters carry heavy burdens on their shoulders and lips. "One must count on oneself - no one else," cries Jon Voight, giving an ebullient star performance as the battle-scarred prisoner determined to worst the vengeful prison governor. "Some things can't be explained," says the train supervisor Kenneth McMillan as his computer whizz-kid ponders on the limits of technology. Throughout Konchalovsky bashes the gongs of human will, destiny and man's bestial nature: icy Alaskan settings strengthen the echoes of Russian doom and gloom. The combination of comic-strip action and philosophical speech-balloons ultimately proves a little ludicrous, but the film, like the train, escapes derailment.

For this Konchalovsky must take the major credit: he directs with furious energy and skill, whether staging a collision with a

caboose or pinpointing the manic gleam in Voight's gold tooth. As for his future with Cannon, we must hope it does not lead to Charles Bronson and Death Wish II.

Rock music documentaries often give the appearance of being filmed by a fly with a 16mm camera who hangs from dressing-room lampshades and buzzes round performers, trying to catch them on the wing. Not so Bring on the Night, made by the film-producing arm of A & M Records: this portrait of the British rock musician Sting preparing for a Paris concert is a highly studied affair, staged for the camera's benefit. Instead of rehearsing in some subterranean lair, Sting and his excellent group of black jazz musicians prepare their numbers amidst the historic splendour of the Château de Courson, just outside Paris. The musicians are interviewed before the château's romantic greenery. Sting meanwhile delivers himself of inflated comments sitting in a pullover in a dark, refined interior. Later, he stands in a green hospital smock, assisting at the birth of his fourth child - an extraneous personal event wheedled into the film to dubious effect.

It is a pity that Sting and his director, Michael Apted, opted so much for the grand, pretentious style. For there is much joyful music-making on show, and the backing group prove a lively bunch, spouting tales of dubious past employment and the hardships of playing when no one wants to listen. The reverential tone is also punctured whenever the manager Miles Copeland is present, spelling out the jazz musicians's negative market-value or castigating the stage designer for his grey, boring costumes ("He wanted it to be Brechtian" she bleats in defence). But the film belongs, for better or worse, to Sting, the soulful



Ebullient star performance: Jon Voight on the run, do or die, in Runaway Train

troubadour. He sings his material with conviction, polish and ease. He also offers a persistent, bizarre echo of the young Laurence Olivier's looks and manner: remove the guitar, dye the hair, and Sting could easily be Hamlet skulking at Elsinore.

The world first had an inkling that The Money Pit might be bad when the trade paper Variety enclosed an advertising supplement in green, pink and violet, shaped like a baby's bottle. Not that this comedy - directed by Richard Benjamin for the ubiquitous Steven Spielberg - concerns motherhood. The topic, rather, is the perils of home-ownership when the newly-purchased home is near ruin. A few knocks and the front door falls down; then the staircase collapses, brown goo fills the bath, electrical circuits erupt into flames and ruff-raff construction workers have a wreckers' ball.

Almost 30 years ago the same story was filmed as Mr Blandings Builds His Dream House, wherein Cary Grant and Myrna Loy battled with financial straits, decorator bandits and, for good measure, marital jealousy. David Giler's new script makes some allowances for contemporary fashions: the suburbanite couple, played by Tom Hanks and Shelley Long, are now unmarried; the object of jealousy is no Melvyn Douglas charmer but a brattish conductor-superstar with long blond locks. The principal ingredients, however, go back to Blandings and beyond, to the silent days when comics repeatedly crashed through walls, sank through floors and turned into whitewashed ghosts.

In Mack Sennett two-reelers, such mayhem could be dispensed without recourse to logic; a feature film, however, must tread more carefully, and here The Money Pit fails badly. The house, we hear, gobbles up the couple's limited money, yet we never learn how the huge final repair bill is met. Were we laughing, we might forgive and forget, but the dialogue remains mundane while the collapsing fixtures soon become showy exercises in Spielbergian special effects. The cast play second fiddle to debris; a pity the talented Shelley Long had to be among them.

In April I wrote enthusiastically about Blue Mountains. Eldar Shengelaya's comic portrait of Russian bureaucracy; this thoroughly engaging film has now been rewarded with limited public run at the ICA. The setting is a publishing house stuffed with unread manuscripts and incompetence. Shengelaya describes the staff's comings and goings along labyrinthine corridors with a sprightly array of running jokes and a keen eye for human foibles.

Geoff Brown

Theatre Only the ruthless last the course

The Relapse Chichester

One glimpse of Di Seymour's set puis paid to the idea that this is going to be an elegantly frivolous revival put on so as to supply an occasion for Richard Briers to give his Lord Foppington. Played around mobile scaffolding against a half-constructed classical facade, it rather suggests that Vanbrugh knocked off The Relapse during tea-breaks on the site of Castle Howard: an impression underlined by the sight of a company variously attired in 18th-century costume and in blousons and wellington boots.

It is also clear from Matthew Francis's direction of the opening scenes that the usual comic emphasis is being displaced. Instead of the blank boredom of the Restoration countryside, we have a Loveless (David Gwillim) happily trudging around with a wheelbarrow, dressed as a gardener. This is followed by the first appearance of Foppington's destitute young brother, Tom; played by John Sessions not as a virtuously spirited youth but

a capering trickster with a wild mane of hair, who is evidently a figure of fun even to his servant Lory.

I think it is Mr Francis's purpose to take the title in earnest: to suggest that London is a place where only the ruthless and greedy survive, and that Loveless and his wife would have been all right if only they had stayed in their garden.

At all events, the expected comic high-points of the play are missing. Mr Briers goes through the narcissistic motions of Foppington's toilette emerging from a wrapper and hair-net into full purple modest performance by past standards, and the central focus of the scene remains on Tom waiting for a sign of recognition from his unfeeling brother. When they do get a scene together, it comes over not so much as an encounter between brothers as between a foolish skinnifin master and a wily and revengeful servant. This certainly has the theatrical advantage of intensifying Tom's determination to cheat Foppington out of his heirship, and redoubling his powers of intrigue once he arrives in Sir Tunbelly's domain.



An ogre defending his castle: Harold Innocent (left) with Richard Briers

However, the nature of the fraternal relationship is that the livelier Tom becomes the more he drains vitality out of his companion. Not only does Mr Briers play Foppington from the start as a loser. He also stifles the magnanimous amiability which is a great charm of the role. Mr Briers despatches it with much excellent status-conscious business, but the character shrivels into a peevish, nutcracker-jawed fool who finally brings the comedy to an end on a note of spite.

Loveless is torn between two ladies as well as absolute moral adversaries. It is hard to imagine how they ever came to be friends. Paula Dionisotti plays Berintha as a fatal temptress, serpentine of body, lecherous of eye, displaying a cold, long-practised seductive technique worlds removed from the spontaneous mischief usually associated with this role. Against her Kate Buffery, a huge-eyed beauty in the likeness of a Caroline Pallas Athene, goes through London scenes in a state of gradually mounting horror,

reaching her peak in a speech I had never noticed before: "Would the world were on fire," she says to a bringer of bad news, "and you in the middle of it."

This is an austere treatment of the play: less funny than usual, but more in touch with the feelings underlying the intrigue. Appropriately in this context, Harold Innocent plays Sir Tunbelly not as a rustic booby but as an ogre defending his castle.

Irving Wardle

Dance Ballet Rambert Sadler's Wells

The last programme of Ballet Rambert's London Season, continuing until tomorrow, contained yet another premiere by yet another choreographer new to the company. Richard Alston has certainly succeeded in putting the stamp of his own mind on the repertory in the short time since he was appointed director, and he has done it as much by his choice of new collaborators as by his own contributions.

It is also notable that from all the new choreographers, Ian Spink, Michael Clark and now Ashley Page, he has secured cogent, well developed pieces. It seems that we have here a real director in the tradition of Rambert herself and her first successor Norman Morrice, with a flair for guiding others without robbing them of their own personalities.

Ashley Page, much the most gifted choreographer to emerge within the Royal Ballet since David Bintley, has already had some experience working with dancers from the avant-garde, and he adapts easily to a style that suits the Rambert dancers, an attractive mid-point between his own academic background and the more mainstream contemporary experience.

The dances reflect those qualities, being fragmentary, almost kaleidoscopic. The movement is lively but not busy, and textures vary with those of the music. There are some mildly mysterious exits and returns towards the end, and touches of humour, especially in a solo for Amanda Britton who begins unexpectedly with a pas de chat appearing from an unexpected opening in Jack Smith's backcloth of vivid abstract patterns on a black ground.

The designs, the painter's first for the theatre, make the ballet look handsome. The costumes, tight painted terms of primary colours, sort the dancers into groups, the three men together, the women divided into a trio and a pair (who are perhaps rather two losers). No anecdotal reasons for this appear, but the groupings gain impact from it, just as patches of colour and the often rotary movements show each other off to best advantage.

John Percival

Paul Scofield Howard Rollins 1986 'TONY' AWARD 'BEST PLAY' "HILARIOUS" Birmingham Evening Mail M NOT RAPPAPORTY Previews from 1st July Opens 3rd July APOLLO THEATRE BOX OFFICE 01-437 2663

Rock INXS Albert Hall

If you hire a car in Australia the chances are that you will receive an automatic vehicle with a device which will, if desired, set the car travelling at a fixed speed, while you take your foot off the accelerator and enjoy the ride. INXS, who come from Australia, where they have enjoyed widespread and increasing popularity since 1980, are a gifted rock group who share many of the characteristics of a vehicle set on automatic.

Not that their songs are all the same speed, nor even that their arrangements and instrumentation are too constant. But in an hour and 20 minutes

Concert RPO/Previn Festival Hall

Much has already been revealed on this page about the content of Peter Maxwell Davies's new Violin Concerto, both by Paul Griffiths in his review of last Saturday's St Magnus Festival premiere and by the soloist, Isaac Stern. Now, perhaps, something should be added about context, since this first London performance naturally shifted attention away from the work's Orkney genesis and towards its standing in Maxwell Davies's career.

To write a conventional concerto, especially for the fiddle, is (however ingeniously contemporary composers may juggle with resources) basically to endorse the Romantic tradition of the virtuoso, the continuing musical supremacy of the symphony orchestra, and time-honoured notions about concert programming. For Maxwell Davies, once the arch-debunker of musical conventions, to compose one is not so surprising: anyone can change his mind.

But for him to produce such a sober, mainstream concerto - in which earnest if undeniably impressive cerebral processes replace the rebellious, instinctive spark of his youth - was a surprise and, for me, a disappointment. Possibly, too, the inspired folkiness of his violin writing in earlier works led one to expect more imaginative demands on Stern's talents than the rather routine assembling of double-stoppings and stratospheric

Concert RPO/Previn Festival Hall

octaves found in the cadenza here. Nevertheless, there are some marvellous things in it. Repeated hearings will probably lead to greater appreciation of the turbulent, heavy textures in the outer movements, always threatening to overwhelm the soloist but eventually collapsing before his unruined lyricism. The slow movement, though, is immediately appealing: the point where stark brass fanfares break into the soloist's haunting "Scottish" theme is masterfully dramatic. Indeed, the orchestration throughout is highly original, if mostly of four colour.

One could imagine the solo part's many upward thrusts of figuration being attacked less circumspectly than by Isaac Stern here. He also had his moments of idiosyncratic intonation. But Stern did convey very well the shifting moods of the three movements, and his whittling down of timbre to project the slow movement's ingenious quality was the work of a seasoned virtuoso. The real revelation, however, was the superbly assured playing of the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra under André Previn's careful direction. They perform this modern stuff rather well: they should do it more often.

Concert RPO/Previn Festival Hall

Previn had opened with Vaughan Williams's Tallis Fantasia, where the strings happily sustained the illusion of Phrygian phrases wafting round flying buttresses, even in this hall's less than cathedral-like acoustics. He closed with a well-pointed account of Debussy's La Mer.

Richard Morrison

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BRECHT & WEILL'S 1928 SMASH HIT. THE THREEPENNY OPERA "Staging, translation and music are consistently excellent!" (7days) Olivier: Tonight, Mon & Tue at 7.15. Tomorrow at 2.00 & 7.15. Then July 24, 25, 26 (m&e). Sponsored by CITICORP/CITIBANK

Tougher fire rules for sport grounds

By Nicholas Beeson

The Home Office yesterday proposed tougher fire safety legislation, especially at sports stadiums, in the wake of last year's fire at the Bradford City football ground when 56 fans were killed.

Stricter fire and safety standards are being imposed on another 66 football, rugby and cricket grounds by the beginning of August.

But the Government also wants a new safety certificate to be mandatory for all sports venues which accommodate more than 500 spectators in one area.

The proposals would require all outdoor sports grounds holding more than 10,000 spectators to pass rigorous tests for fire and structural safety. Local authorities would be given the power to decide whether smaller grounds would have to comply.

For indoor stadiums, the new legislation would make it mandatory to have a special licence.

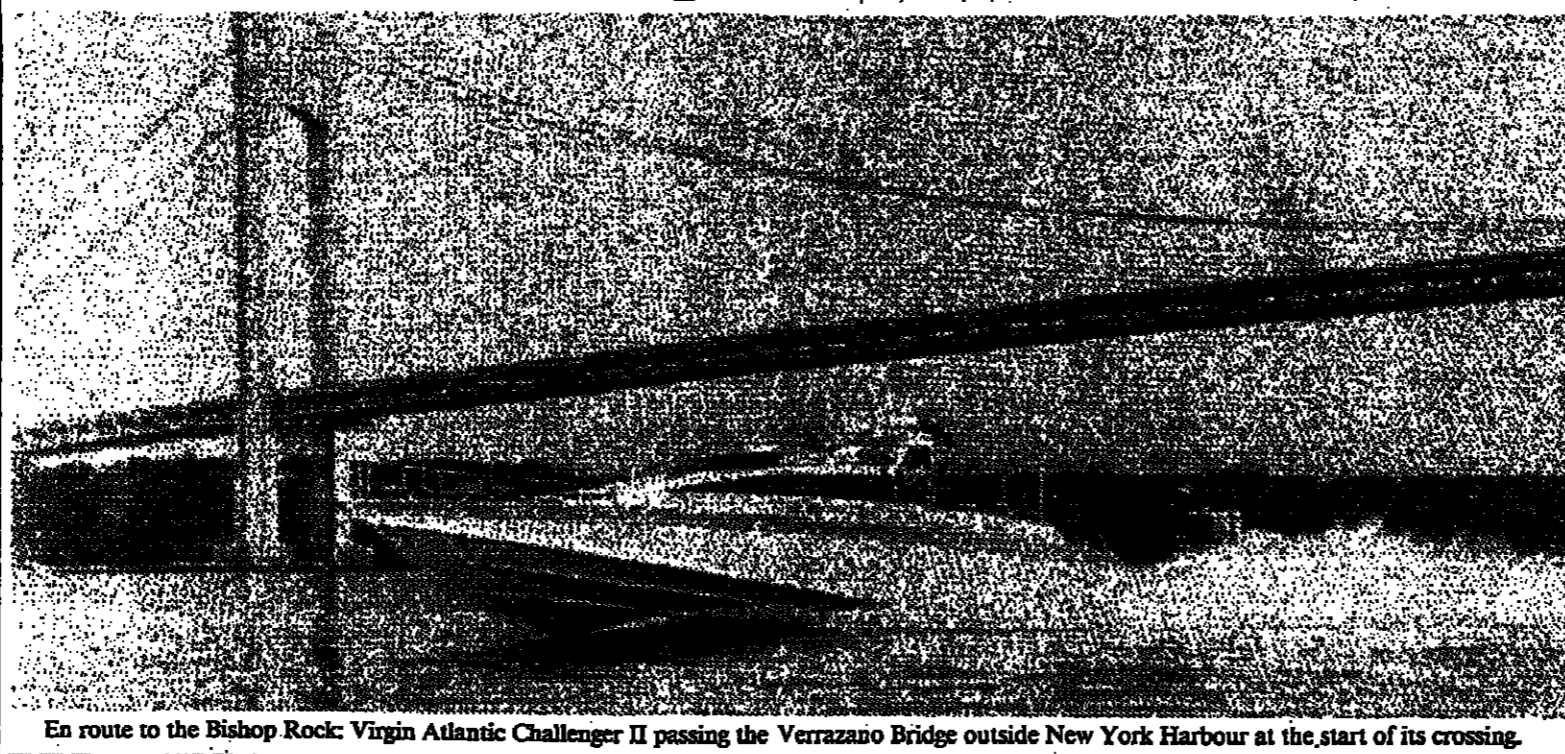
Among the 66 sports grounds immediately designated by the stricter controls are all six Test match cricket grounds Lord's, Old Trafford, Headingley, Trent Bridge, the Oval and Edgbaston.

Also on the list are 26 non-football League soccer clubs, three Rugby League and 16 Rugby Union clubs. All Football League grounds were made subject to the requirements before the beginning of last year's season.

The proposed changes were put forward in a joint discussion paper by the Home Office and the Scottish Office and would mean amendments to the 1975 Safety of Sports Grounds Act, 1975 and the Fire Precautions Act, 1971. The proposals were modeled from recommendations in the Poppelwell Report into the Bradford disaster.

Lord Glenarthur, Home Office minister responsible for fire safety, said that the cost of safety improvements would have to be met by sports organizations.

Branson tries again for ocean record



En route to the Bishop Rock Virgin Atlantic Challenger II passing the Verrazano Bridge outside New York Harbour at the start of its crossing.



Second time lucky for the Virgin team? A confident Richard Branson throws a snappy salute as he and his crew set off on their three-day transatlantic voyage.

The record and airline tycoon Mr Richard Branson and his five-man crew, set sail from New York yesterday confident that they will finally break the record for the fastest transatlantic crossing.

In a telephone link-up to the Press Association from his 72ft power boat, Virgin Atlantic Challenger II, Mr Branson said: "We have a great crew and a good chance."

In May 1985 Mr Branson's first try at the record ended in failure when the original Virgin Atlantic Challenger sank 138 miles short of taking the Blue Riband for the fastest crossing.

Now, with a new £1½ million boat and an experienced crew - again including the top yachtman, Clay Blyth - Mr Branson is back with a strong challenge.

The record for the fastest crossing is held by the liner, United States, which completed the sailing in three days, 10 hours, 40 minutes in 1952.

Mr Branson and his team hope to reach Bishop's Rock, 2,949 miles from New York off the Isles of Scilly, by Sunday.

Atlantic Challenger II, built by the British firm, Brooks Yachts, has a top speed of about 65 knots and is expected to average about 45 knots.

On the first attempt, Mr Branson and his crew had to combat exhaustion, depression and hallucinations.

Blast at Madrid airport

From Richard Wigg Madrid

A terrorist bomb, hidden in a suitcase, exploded during a luggage security check at the El Al airline counter in Madrid's Barajas airport yesterday, injuring seven people, three of them seriously.

A man, described by eyewitnesses as young and of Arab appearance, was detained shortly after the explosion in the departure lounge.

Among the three taken to hospital with serious injuries was the Israeli airline's security man at the check-in counter, who caught the full force of the explosion as he was inspecting the suitcase of a passenger bound for Tel Aviv. Waiting passengers said the young Arab was the owner of the suitcase.

The other two taken to hospital were a Spanish policeman who was badly injured in one arm, and a passenger.

The El Al security man apparently noticed smoke emerging from the suitcase and was able to warn several passengers.

Letter from Durban

Healey in the Zulu wars

Mr Denis Healey, the Labour Party's shadow foreign secretary, really got into his stride yesterday. He took many photographs and kissed lots of babies, assuring each successive mother that her's was the healthiest, prettiest infant he had ever seen.

He was in Durban, Natal, and visited the very poor township of Claremont before going on to see the ruins of the Mahatma Gandhi settlement at Phoenix.

Last year the settlement building was burnt down by Zulus, who have always regarded it as their territory. There is, unfortunately, a long history of racial tension between Indians and Zulus in Natal - indeed, Gandhi originally founded the settlement (in 1904) to promote reconciliation.

Mr Healey seemed horrified by what he saw and denounced Inkatha, the Zulu movement headed by Chief Gatsha Buthelezi, which he held responsible for the destruction.

He said that when he had been in South Africa in 1970, he had regarded Chief Buthelezi as a co-belligerent against apartheid. He was sorry to see that since then the chief appeared to have come to terms with the South African Government, and abandoned the radical cause.

At Phoenix, a Casspir anti-riot vehicle appeared on the horizon. Mr Healey seemed delighted to see it, and rather disappointed that it kept its distance.

Emboldened by the presence of the law, he repeated his (illegal) call for sanctions. He said that he had discussed the issue with the leaders of the front-line states, who were prepared to put up with hardship in order to shorten South Africa's agony.

When he first arrived in South Africa, Mr Healey was circumspect in expressing his views on sanctions. As the days have passed, his language has grown stronger and stronger, but more and more reminiscent of Question Time in the House of Commons.

After Phoenix, Mr Healey.

Emphasis on Irish angle

When asked by various churchmen about his own religious beliefs, Mr Healey emphasized his Irish, rather than his Yorkshire origins. He also described himself as a fellow traveller with religion.

Among his hosts yesterday were five of the six men who in 1984 spent some weeks as rather embarrassing guests of the British Consulate in Durban, where they had sought refuge from the South African police.

They included Mr Archie Gumede, a co-president of the United Democratic Front anti-apartheid coalition, to whom Mr Healey presented a copy of *Healey's Eye*, an anthology of his photographs.

While Mr Healey was in Durban, his deputy, Mr Donald Anderson, went to Port Elizabeth to see local church leaders and black townships.

The role of deputy to Mr Healey is not an easy one: the boss has decided opinions, and rarely feels the need for much advice. So beyond slicing the lemons and opening the tonic, there may not be much to do. But Mr Anderson seems endlessly resilient.

Mr Healey was disappointed that he was unable to see Mgr Denis Hurley, the Roman Catholic Archbishop of Durban, who was away. Mgr Hurley, a former rugby player, whose family came from Limerick, is a burly, ruddy-faced, jovial and ebullient character. I suspect that the two Denises would have taken to one another.

Bruce Anderson

Today's events

Royal engagements
The Queen opens the Horse Show to mark the Sesqui-centenary of the Metropolitan Police Mounted Branch, Imber Court, Surrey, 12.10.

The Princess of Wales, Patron, the Malcolm Sargent Cancer Fund for Children, attends a charity concert in aid of the fund, given by the Suzuki Children, Tetbury Parish Church, Tetbury, Gloucestershire, 7.20.

Princess Anne attends a meeting of the Paediatric Section of the Royal Society of Medicine on Paediatrics and Child Health in China and Africa, the Royal Society of Medicine, Wimpole St, W1, 12.30.

The Duchess of Kent, Patron, attends the general meeting and launch of the 75th Anniversary Campaign of the National Society for Cancer Relief, Kensington Town Hall, Hornton St, W8, 2.20.

Prince Michael of Kent, Commonwealth President of the Royal Life Saving Society, attends the closing ceremony of the sixth Commonwealth Conference, St James's Palace, SW1, 10.05.

Princess Michael of Kent attends the Silver Chef Lunch for the Nordoff Robbins Music Therapy Centre and presents an award, Hotel Intercontinental, Hamilton Place, W1, 12.30.

Concert by the Bournemouth Symphony Orchestra, Truro Cathedral, 7.45.

Organ recital by Nicolas Kynaston, Clifton Cathedral, Bristol, 7.30.

Jazz by the Peter King Quintet, St David's Hall, The Hayes, Cardiff, 9.

Hary recital by Vanessa McKendry, St Mary's Church, Shaw-cum-Donnington, Berks, 8.

Concert by the Deller Consort, Boughton Aluph Church, 7.30.

Concert by the Worcester Concert Band, Farslow High School, 7.30.

Piano recital by Rosalind Ruscoe with The Dunmore Singers, St Patrick's Parish Church, Whitehead, 7.30.

Concert by the Hallé Orchestra, Free Trade Hall, Manchester, 7.

Recital by Musica Domini Dei, All Saints Church, Misterton, 7.15.

Talks and lectures
The arts, past, present and future by Jonathan Miller, Aisher Hall, Sevenoaks School, 8.

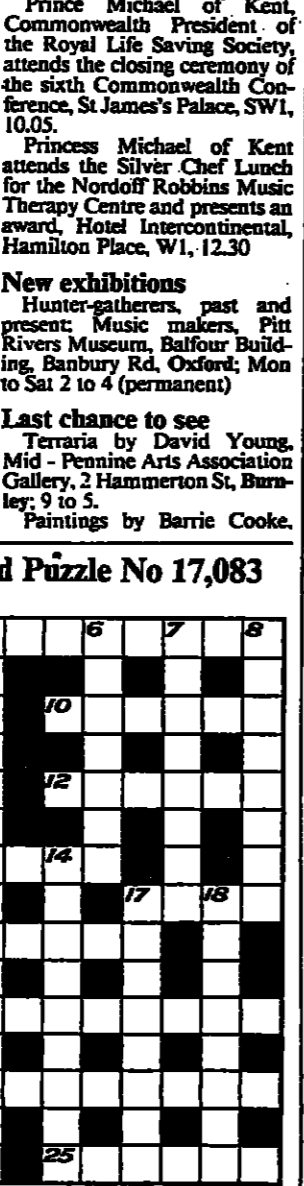
General
Flower Festival, Parish Church of All Saints, Odham, Hants, today, tomorrow and Fri 10 to 7.30.

Pollen count
The pollen count for London and the South-east, issued by the Asthma Research Council at 10 am yesterday was 66 (high). Forecast for today, similar. For today's recording call British Telecom's Weatherline: 01-246 8091, which is updated each day at 10.30 am.

Roads
London and South - east: Hold-ups in traffic in SW London, particularly on A202/A3, A24, because of Winbydon trees. Camperdown Rd, Stratford, closed between High St and Winson Rd. Northbound carriageway closed between junctions 8 and 9 (Winchester) Roadside sign: Lane restriction and some overnight closures on westbound carriageway between junctions 1 and 2 (Bromsgrove) and 4 (Droitwich) on M5/A6. Lane restriction and some overnight closures on eastbound carriageway between junctions 15 and 16. Contrailow now removed.
Wales and West: Contrailow on S-bound carriageway between junctions 6 (M5) and 10 (Chesterham) on M5. Outside lane closed on S-bound carriageway between junction 22 (Wester Superior) and 25 (Taunton). M5: Various lane closures between junctions 25 (Taunton) and 28 (Westbury).
North: M6: Single-lane traffic on N-bound carriageway between junctions 19 (Clydebank) and 27 (Glasgow).
M6: Contrailow between junctions 31 (Preston) and 32 (Blackpool), Lancs.
Traffic leaving S-bound carriageway from junctions 3 and 10 or S-bound two-way traffic S-bound, M74: Two-way traffic S-bound, M74: Two-way traffic N-bound, carriageway N of Lanarkshire.
Scotland: M6: Outside lane closed on S-bound carriageway between junctions 19 (Clydebank) and 27 (Glasgow).
M6: Contrailow between junctions 31 (Preston) and 32 (Blackpool), Lancs.
Traffic leaving S-bound carriageway from junctions 3 and 10 or S-bound two-way traffic S-bound, M74: Two-way traffic N-bound, carriageway N of Lanarkshire.

Concise Crossword, page 14

The Times Crossword Puzzle No 17,083



ACROSS
1 Frenchman walked back under to disappear (6).
5 Bird authority, extremely ethical (8).
9 Drink time - big cask wanted (8).
10 Turning-point about a certain river (6).
11 An excuse, of course, for diversion (8).
12 Man in last place to try once more (8).
13 His rolling stone gathered no moss (8).
15 Tiller in old tin hat (4).
17 Depravity is very sweet (4).
19 Make a fuss about football back - a low flier (8).
20 Calendar the West is out to nullify (6).
21 Gin made one cock-eyed, it's thought (8).
22 Grudgingly admired, I've qualified in consequence (6). This worthy (8).
24 Fruit used for port made during war (8).
25 Having swellings, being without medicine? (6).
DOWN
2 Level the score in match (8).
3 Is "charm" a new version of an old word? (8).

Food prices

As was only to be expected, home-produced lamb prices have dropped dramatically this week. Loin chops are down between 19p and 25p a pound; whole legs by about 18p a pound and whole shoulders by between 13p and 16p a pound. Summer prices are down again at Billingsgate this week and there are lots of excellent quality rainbow trout which should retail at about £1.40 a lb for small fish and £2.00 a lb for larger fish. Haddock, plaice and squid are plentiful and cheaper and there is superb swordfish which is ideal for barbecuing. Banded, fresh herring and fresh mackerel are down about 2p a pound. Lemon sole, large cod and codling fillets, plaice and smoked haddock are also cheaper.

Good offers available at shops and supermarkets this week are: Dewhurst and Baxters, family barbecue packs of four spare-rib chops, eight chicken drumsticks and four pork sausages, at £3.99 a pack, and braising steak at £1.79 a lb; Presto fresh chickens, up to 3lb 15oz, at 68p a lb, and Chineses, flavoured spare rib chops at £1.24 a lb.

The best value strawberries are probably the French, Dutch and Belgian strawberries, sold in 1lb punnets at 90p to £1 a punnet. Peaches are the pick of the week, at 12p-22p each, or kilo punnets at 90p-£1.20 a punnet.

Parliament today
Commons (9.30): European Communities (Amendment) Bill, continuation of committee stage.
House (11): Dockyard Services Bill, report stage.

Top Films

The top box-office films in London:
1) A Room With A View
2) Down and Out in Beverly Hills
3) L.A. Story
4) 4½ Weeks
5) After Hours
6) Out of Africa
7) Jagged Edge
8) The Jewel of the Nile
9) Police
10) Biggles

The top films in the provinces:
1) Down and Out in Beverly Hills
2) Jewel of the Nile
3) Flight Night
4) 4½ Weeks
5) Jagged Edge
6) L.A. Story
7) Police
8) Biggles

Top video rentals
1) Mad Max-Beyond Thunderdome
2) Top Gun
3) The Emerald Forest
4) Code of Silence
5) Witness
6) The Untouchables
7) Best Defence
8) Pale Rider
9) Invasion of USA
10) Re-Animator

Anniversaries
Births: Charles Stewart Parnell, Avondale, Co Wicklow, 1846; Ivan Vazov, writer, Sofia, Bulgaria, 1850; Sir John Masefield, engineer and general, Melbourne, 1865; Helen Keller, author, educator, who was blind, deaf and mute, Tusconia, Alabama, 1880.
Deaths: Giorgio Vasari, painter and art historian, Florence, 1574; Joseph Smith, founder of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (Mormons), murdered, Carthage, Illinois, 1844.

Weather

An anticyclone will cover North Sea and a shallow depression to W of Bay of Biscay will move slowly N.

6am to midnight
London, E, W Midlands, NW, central N England, Lake District, Surrey, parts of Scotland: showers developing, wind SE, light, max temp 27 to 28C (81 to 84F). SE E England, SW, NW Scotland, Glasgow, central Highlands, Angus, Northern Ireland: showers developing, wind SE, moderate, light to heavy, max temp 26 to 28C (79 to 82F), but cooler on coasts.
Channel Islands, SW England, S, N Wales: Fair, cloudy, drizzly showers, wind mainly SE, light, max temp 24 to 26C (75 to 79F), but cooler on coasts.
Ireland: Fair, cloudy, drizzly showers, wind mainly SE, light, max temp 21 to 23C (70 to 73F).
SE England, Derby: Mainly dry, sunny periods, mainly on coasts with fog patches; wind SE, moderate, max temp 22 to 24C (72 to 75F), but cooler on coasts.
Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen, Murray Park, NE Scotland, Orkney: Mainly dry, sunny periods, mainly on coasts with fog patches; wind SE, moderate, max temp 20 to 22C (68 to 72F), but cooler on coasts.
Sheff, Newcastle: Scattered showers; wind S or SE, light, max temp 16 to 18C (61 to 64F).
Outlook for tomorrow and Sunday: Thursday showers, some prolonged in W, but northern areas becoming mainly dry. Coastal fog becoming more widespread. Generally very warm or hot, but much cooler on coasts, especially in E.

Lighting-up time
London 8.28 pm to 4.18 am
Edinburgh 10.03 pm to 3.59 am
Sheff 8.18 pm to 4.47 am
Penzance 10.06 pm to 4.45 am

Yesterday
Temperatures at midday yesterday: c. cloud; f. fair; r. rain; s. sun.

The pound
Bank Rate 10.50
Australia \$ 2.25
Austria Sch 24.90
Belgium F 36.36
Canada C 1.25
Denmark Kr 12.35
France F 6.55
Germany DM 2.36
Hong Kong H 7.75
India Rs 25.00
Japan Yen 163.00
Netherlands G 2.20
New York \$ 1.51
Portugal Esc 200.48
Spain P 166.37
Swiss Fr 2.20
Sweden Kr 11.21
Taiwan N 37.00
USA \$ 1.58
Yugoslavia Dnr 900

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Bank Rate 10.50
Australia \$ 2.25
Austria Sch 24.90
Belgium F 36.36
Canada C 1.25
Denmark Kr 12.35
France F 6.55
Germany DM 2.36
Hong Kong H 7.75
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Japan Yen 163.00
Netherlands G 2.20
New York \$ 1.51
Portugal Esc 200.48
Spain P 166.37
Swiss Fr 2.20
Sweden Kr 11.21
Taiwan N 37.00
USA \$ 1.58
Yugoslavia Dnr 900

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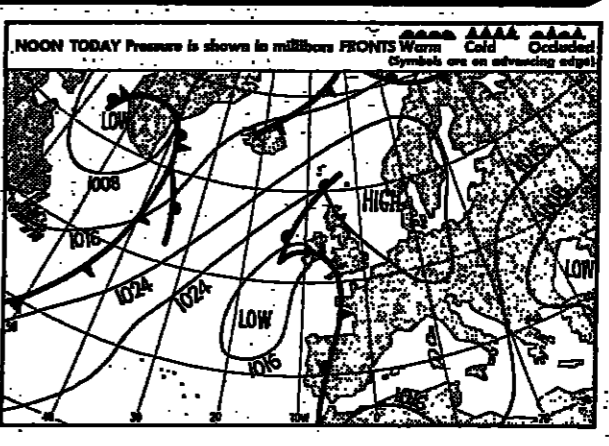
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Station	Today			High Tides		
	mm	h	f	mm	h	f
London Bridge	5.48	4.0	6.48	11.6	3.7	11.6
Aberdeen	3.29	3.6	12.01	11.5	3.8	11.5
Birmingham	11.48	10.7	6.1	11.0	5.1	6.1
Cardiff	10.50	6.1	11.00	11.2	6.2	11.2
Doncaster	10.29	4.6	10.30	11.2	4.8	11.2
Glasgow	4.30	6.2	6.4	11.2	6.4	11.2
Hull	4.30	3.4	3.8	11.2	3.8	11.2
Holyhead	2.47	5.4	3.29	11.2	3.29	11.2
Leamington	10.46	1.1	11.23	11.2	1.1	11.23
London	10.48	11.13	8.3	11.2	11.13	8.3
Liverpool	7.14	5.2	7.58	11.2	5.2	7.58
Liverpool	1.24	3.2	4.12	11.2	3.2	4.12
Lough Lorne	2.16	2.2	1.53	11.2	2.2	1.53
Lough Swilly	1.24	3.2	4.12	11.2	3.2	4.12
London	11.02	6.1	11.23	11.2	6.1	11.23
Newquay	9.57	6.2	10.22	11.2	6.2	10.22
Oban	10.20	1.2	11.23	11.2	1.2	11.23
Penzance	10.01	4.8	10.12	11.2	4.8	10.12
Portsmouth	11.44	1.8	11.53	11.2	1.8	11.53
Reading	11.18	1.1	11.18	11.2	1.1	11.18
Shrewsbury	3.57	5.8	4.16	11.2	5.8	4.16
Southampton	3.24	4.1	4.10	11.2	4.1	4.10
Stranraer	11.08	1.2	11.23	11.2	1.2	11.23
Yarm	8.16	5.1	8.05	11.2	5.1	8.05
Sheff-on-Sea	4.18	4.1	4.28	11.2	4.1	4.28

Station	Today			High Tides		
	mm	h	f	mm	h	f
London	10.9	23	73	11.2	23	73
Birmingham	8.8	21	70	11.2	21	70
Cardiff	8.5	24	73	11.2	24	73
Doncaster	11.4	21	70	11.2	21	70
Glasgow	18.1	19	68	11.2	19	68
Hull	18.1	19	68	11.2	19	68
Leamington	18.1	19	68	11.2	19	68
Liverpool	18.1	19	68	11.2	19	68
Lough Lorne	18.1	19	68	11.2	19	68
Lough Swilly	18.1	19	68	11.2	19	68
London	18.1	19	68	11.2	19	68
Liverpool	18.1	19	68	11.2	19	68
Lough Lorne	18.1	19	68	11.2	19	68
Lough Swilly	18.1	19	68	11.2	19	68
London	18.1	19	68	11.2	19	68
Liverpool	18.1	19	68	11.2	19	68
Lough Lorne	18.1	19	68	11.2	19	68
Lough Swilly	18.1	19	68	11.2	19	68

Station	Today			High Tides		
	mm	h	f	mm	h	f
London	10.9	23	73	11.2	23	73
Birmingham	8.8	21	70	11.2	21	70
Cardiff	8.5	24	73	11.2	24	73
Doncaster	11.4	21	70	11.2	21	70
Glasgow	18.1	19	68	11.2	19	68
Hull	18.1	19	68	11.2	19	68
Leamington	18.1	19	68	11.2	19</	

FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

FRIDAY JUNE 27 1986

Bank of England sounds alarm on interest rates

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 Share 1353.1 (+8.3) FT-SE 100 1637.5 (+8.1) Bargains 23845 USM (Datastream) 124.37 (+0.82) THE POUND US Dollar 1.5180 (-0.0020) W German mark 3.3715 (+0.0077) Trade-weighted 76.0 (-0.1)

American joins ICI

ICI has made Mr Thomas Wynian, US chairman and chief executive of Columbia Broadcasting Corporation, a non-executive director.

Evered bid attacked

McKeechie Brothers, the Midlands engineering group, last night launched a bitter attack on Evered Holdings.

Share issue

The issue of preference shares in Billingsgate City Securities, the single asset company set up to sell securities in the 185,000 sq ft City of London office development.

BPB soars

BPB, the plasterboard manufacturer, increased profits from £78.6 million to £103.2 million before tax in the year to 31 March.

£20m ISE bid

Industrial Scotland Energy, the oil exploration company, has received a bid of 90p a share from Texas Gas Resources Corporation.

Sovereign rights

Sovereign Oil & Gas announced yesterday that it is raising £2.5 million by a rights issue.

Life expands

The London International Financial Futures Exchange (Life) will spend £1.2 million over the next two to three years to increase fivefold its capacity.

Metals 'value'

Mr Alan Bond's Metals Exploration Group said it believes its 150p-a-share offer for Hampton Gold Mining Areas represents "full and fair value".

The Bank of England has given warning that there are enough worrying signs in the economy to justify an extremely cautious approach to interest rates.

Strongly rising unit labour costs and a rapid increase in liquidity in the economy are regarded by the Bank as danger signals.

Despite the 39 per cent annualized growth in the broad measure of money, sterling M3, in the latest three months, the Bank says that there is little indication, taken

overall, that monetary conditions are loose. It cites the performance of narrow money, M0, which is still growing at the lower end of its 2 to 6 per cent official target range.

However, the Bank is keenly aware of the big build-up of liquidity in the economy, mainly as a result of increased competition between banks, building societies and other financial intermediaries.

"On balance," the bulletin says, "there is little indication as yet that liquidity is unwillingly held at current real interest rates."

Liquidity could take a number of damaging forms, including excessive pay settlements, sharp movements of funds abroad by financial institutions and too rapid a rise in consumer spending.

The stress on real interest rates is important, but Bank of England officials are unhappy about reading too much into the performance of the retail price index.

Like the Chancellor, they expect a rate of about 3 per cent at the end of the year, but do not expect a further decline next year.

However, the Bank says, there are other measures of inflation, and these display a less satisfactory picture.

The gross domestic product deflator, the index of all home costs, was up by just over 5 per cent in the first quarter, compared with a year earlier.

The British economy passed in the first quarter, as did most other major economies.

The prospect of strong growth in real incomes should ensure a resumption of growth, the Bank says, although the consequent rise in unit labour costs may hold Britain back compared with competitor countries.

Ferruzzi unveils strategy

By Richard Lander

Ferruzzi, the Italian agricultural group which holds a 23.7 per cent stake in S&W Berisford, reaffirmed yesterday that it was still seeking control of Berisford's British Sugar subsidiary.

However, rather than announce an immediate full bid for Berisford, it revealed a "hearts and minds" strategy designed to allay the fears of regulatory authorities, British Sugar employees and farmers in Britain over its intentions towards British Sugar.

At the centre of the strategy, disclosed by Mr Raul Gardini, Ferruzzi's president, is an unusual request to the Government that its holding in Berisford be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, as is the case with a proposed bid by Tate & Lyle.

If the commission permits, Ferruzzi would then attempt to gain control of British Sugar, either by increasing its stake in Berisford or pursuing its original intention of buying British Sugar and arranging management buyouts for other Berisford businesses.

Ferruzzi held talks with Berisford on such a move earlier this year when its stake was 9 per cent. It increased its shareholding by purchasing a 14.7 per cent stake from Hillside Holdings whose bid was referred to the Monopolies Commission along with Tate & Lyle's last month.

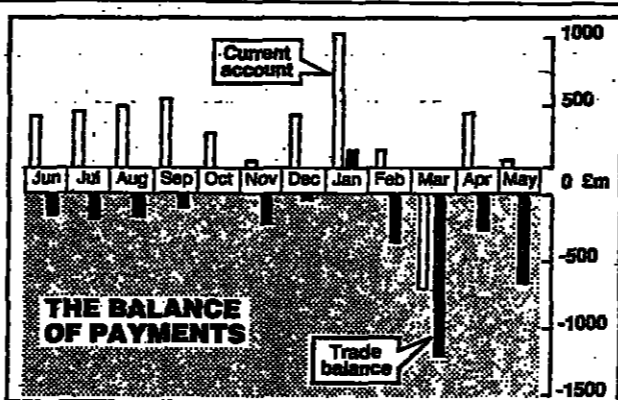
At the same time, Ferruzzi announced the appointment of Sir Richard Butler, president of the National Farmers Union until February, as chairman of its new British subsidiary, Agricola-UK, which will hold the group's shareholding in Berisford.

Asked what Ferruzzi would do with British Sugar, Mr Gardini said the company "has all the qualities to remain as it is."

A Ferruzzi document entitled "Our commitment to the UK" also promised close relations with British farmers and unions and management at British Sugar and said there would be no factory closures or redundancies.

If the bid for British Sugar was successful Ferruzzi would control some 22 per cent of EEC sugar production.

The bid talk pushed Berisford shares to 239p, but they ended 3p lower at 232p, valuing the group at £443 million.



UK trade deficit doubles to £666m

By Our Economics Correspondent

Britain had a trade deficit in goods of £666 million last month, more than double the April figure. The current account, after allowing for the invisible items of trade, scraped into surplus by £34 million.

The current account surplus for the first five months of the year totalled £597 million, compared with the Treasury's forecast of £3.5 billion for the whole of 1986.

Treasury officials said yesterday that the forecast could still be achieved as the effects of lower oil prices start to come through in stronger non-oil exports, having so far been mainly reflected in a declining oil surplus.

The visible trade deficit of £2.33 billion in the first five months of this year exceeded its total of £2.14 billion for the whole of last year.

The main factor in this sharp deterioration has been the fall in the value of Britain's oil exports. In the March-May period, oil exports dropped by £1.6 billion compared with the previous three months. Last

Thames attracts £873m

By Alison Eadie

The offer for sale for Thames Television was oversubscribed 26.9 times, with 287.7 million shares, worth £32.5 million, offered.

A total of 102,628 applications were received for 459.4 million shares. Investors will not receive nearly as many shares as they applied for.

Those who asked for up to 3,500 will go into a weighted ballot and the successful ones receive 200 shares. Those applying for 4,000 to 10,000 shares will receive 200 and those applying for more than 10,000 will receive 2 per cent, up to a maximum of 50,000 shares.

The tender offer for Morgan Grenfell was also oversubscribed, attracting more than 40,000 applications.

The striking price looks like being priced at about the 480p mark, against a minimum tender price of 425p.

The increase cost Dec more than £1 million in extra commission.

Guidelines for open market shares revised

The Stock Exchange yesterday revised its guidelines on open market share purchases to give more flexibility and avoid the sort of off-market scramble for shareholding positions which characterized the Westland battle.

In future the broker acting for a buyer building up a stake will have to declare to the world at large what price he is prepared to pay and how many shares he is seeking.

As a further move to have the business transacted inside the market, the Stock Exchange Council is reducing the minimum period during which the offer must stand from one day to one hour.

It is felt that one reason for the off-market for shares in Westland was that this avoided the risk of having an attempted purchase in the open market spoiled by a rival offer which the original broker would have been unable to counter until the next day.

Oppenheim advances

Mr Nick Oppenheim, the financier, yesterday took a decisive step forward towards winning his battle for the Aitken Hume financial services conglomerate. He claimed last night to hold or have received acceptances for 36.81 per cent of Aitken's shares after increasing the terms of his all-paper offer by 11 per cent.

On Wednesday, Mr Oppenheim announced that his original bid had attracted 8.8 per cent acceptances to add to the 1.2 per cent he already owned. However, yesterday's new bid attracted another 26.81 per cent pledges, although 3.85 per cent of these cannot yet be counted as valid under the terms of the takeover code.

Among those believed to have accepted the new offer are clients of Laing & Cruickshank, the stockbroker, who were advised to take Mr Oppenheim's offer. Among the Laing clients accepting was said to be Mutual Star, an American fund which speaks for 12 per cent of Aitken's equity.

Mr Oppenheim's quoted Tranwood group is now offering 10 shares, rather than nine, for each Aitken. The new bid values Aitken at around £87 million and each share at about 190p. Aitken shares closed 3p lower yesterday at 164p.

Executives at Aitken were not available for comment last night.

Opec close to agreement on new quota system

From David Young, Brioni

Agreement on a new production quota system appears close to being reached by the 13 oil ministers of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries.

The new quota system is designed to force prices back up to a target of \$18 a barrel. Details have still to be worked out, but several Opec ministers are now confident that an agreement can be reached.

Opec's official spokesman, Mr James Adu, said yesterday that "good progress" is being made at the ministerial meeting in Yugoslavia and that he was hopeful of an agreement.

However, the Nigerian oil minister, Mr Rilwanu Lukman, who succeeded to the chairmanship of Opec at the start of the meeting, said he would prefer to make no official statement on progress until he had something concrete to announce.

The ministers are meeting at this Yugoslavian island retreat, formerly President Tito's summer residence, to conduct a round of informal discussions which are being used to patch over some of the

cracks which have appeared in Opec's public facade. Yesterday's meeting was initially limited to the 13 ministers with each having one adviser at his side, instead of the usual support teams of economists and financial advisers.

It appears to have resulted in an agreement to work out new quotas, which will allow a slight increase in oil production in the fourth quarter of this year to meet winter demand, but which will also be strictly adhered to so that present over-production is halted.

Libya, Iran and Algeria would still prefer to see a sharp cut in overall production, which they feel could send prices back up to \$29 a barrel.

The other Opec ministers now appear to be having some success in persuading them that this is unachievable unless Saudi Arabia cuts back on its production to half its present 4½ million barrel a day level, a level which Saudi Arabia has made clear it has no intention of returning to.

The gaily other dissenting voice is that of Ecuador's oil minister, Mr Javier Teran, who yesterday suggested that Opec should set a target of sending the price up to \$20 by the end of the year.

Opec is now being encouraged by soundings it has taken from non-member oil producers such as Malaysia, Angola, Mexico, Egypt and Norway. All have indicated that they would trim their oil output once Opec agrees on a new firm quota, although there is considerable confusion among the Opec ministers about whether the non-member producers should announce production cuts before or after Opec announces what cuts it plans to make.

The fact that Britain has remained totally distant from Opec on the issue of North Sea production has led to the usual outburst of criticism against it from Opec.

Senator Arturo Grisanti, the Venezuelan oil minister and until this week Opec's president, said: "I believe that low prices cause the most serious problem for countries with limited resources and high production costs. This is the case of countries like the UK."

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

Will Borrie stir it for the brewers?

The befrage traditionally is a stout supporter of the Tory Party, to the benefit of both. As an electoral influence the demon drink may not be as strong as in the past but, given the choice, the Government, any government, would prefer to lower the price of a pint in advance of a General Election than to put it up.

The question is whether the knight of the shining countenance, the Director-General of Fair Trading, Sir Gordon Borrie, will dare to venture into these deep and dangerous waters with an election no more than two years away and the party collection boxes on red alert. Will he recommend to the Secretary of State, and will Paul Channon agree, that the brewers' tied-house system should be examined again by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission?

There is mounting evidence that the tied estate is yielding too many dividends to the brewers (70 per cent of all beer sales are made through tied houses) at the expense of the drinking classes. Not only is a pint costing more than it should (it has risen more than the rate of inflation would justify), but the people's choice behind the bar seems to be shrinking.

Scottish & Newcastle and Bass, which between them have about 90 per cent of the Scottish market, in rapid sequence have put 2p on a pint. Scotland is where the national round of price increases normally starts. As for customer choice, the Morning Advertiser on May 21 bravely wrote in an editorial headed "Ale and the tie lesson":

"It seems obvious that the attitude some brewers are taking towards national beers is having the effect of restricting the market leaders that customers can buy...Brewers never seem to learn."

Sir Gordon Borrie, given his character and belief in the competitive virtues, must be sorely tempted to recommend another investigation of a system that seems to sustain monopoly pricing and the power to restrict the choice of drinks available. Neither practice should commend itself to a government dedicated to the free market, especially as a reform of the tied estate would almost certainly lead to lower prices for beer and other drinks sold behind the bar.

Even if the tie remains inviolate, the structure of the brewing industry will undergo radical changes within the next two years. Sir Derrick Holden-Brown is confident that the Monopolies Commission will save Allied-Lyons from the clutches of Elders. The relief might be short: other impressarios are waiting in the wings, contemplating a group that is both a brewer and a break-up situation. One interested spectator of the brewing scene is Anheuser-Busch, the American Budweiser giant, which is uniquely capable of bidding for the market leader itself, Bass.

Meanwhile, eyes are sharply focused on Grand Metropolitan, which owns Watney Mann and Truman. Although this week's meeting between Sir Stanley Grinstead and Alan Bond (Americas Cup, Bond Corporation,

Swan and dealer in Screen Entertainment) has been categorized as routine, there is no question that Mr Bond would like to bid for Grand Met, a house where it is said in the business there is no longer a meeting of minds between Sir Stanley and the managing director Allen Sheppard. Mr Bond may wait until the MMC has pronounced on Elders and Allied.

It would be a fascinating irony if the three knights, Sir Derrick (63), Sir Derek Palmer (Bass and 67) and Sir Stanley (62), all bowed out to the sound of successful bids. *Après trois, les déluges.*

And who would be against a link between James Gulliver, the laird of Argyll, and Scottish & Newcastle? Agreed, of course. No more costly and bruising takeover battles. S&N certainly has to move. A second bite at Matthew Brown is always a possibility, but much less attractive than, say, a merger with Courage to create a formidable national brewer.

Courage, acquired as part of Imperial by Hanson Trust, is available. Lord Hanson's asking price is £1 billion, a figure that so far has been received with a mixture of mirth and terror. If the Office of Fair Trading were to add the gunpowder of a reference to this heady brew of mix and merger, the noise would rival the big bang.

Going Dutch

Lord Rothermere wishes to transfer the Daily Mail & General Trust — and thereby control of Associated Newspapers — to Holland. He is seeking a judicial review to establish that the legal requirement for Treasury permission for the move conflicts with European Community law. The Treasury is likely to oppose this strenuously, not least because the most obvious motive is to avoid British taxation.

It is easy to see the frustration of the Harnsworth family. If the trust were authorized, it would avoid internal capital gains tax. But it cannot be authorized since most of its assets are tied up in a half-share of Associated, publishers of the embarrassingly patriotic Daily Mail and Mail on Sunday. So the trust operates its remaining £70 million portfolio at a disadvantage.

Moving to Holland would enable it in effect to start again by revaluing its portfolio at present prices, though it would still be liable to Dutch tax on future gains.

This makes sense if the trust wants to make a once-for-all switch in its portfolio, for instance to sell British shares and buy foreign ones. It makes nonsense of the spirit of harmonization but that would be nothing new. The move would enable the Harnsworths to hang on to Associated without the tax penalties. But the really big tax benefits of moving to Holland would come if the £200 million stake in Associated were sold. That is surely not the present intention. But Lord Rothermere is 60. His son and heir is 18 and few things in Fleet Street now look permanent.

MARKET SUMMARY

Table with columns for STOCK MARKETS and MAIN PRICE CHANGES. Includes data for New York, Dow Jones, Nikkei Dow, Hang Kong, Amstar/Gan, Sydney/AD, Frankfurt, Commerzbank, Brussels, General, Foster CAC, Zurich, SKA General, and London closing prices.

Table with columns for INTEREST RATES and CURRENCIES. Includes data for Bank Rate, 3-month Interbank, 3-month eligible bills, buying rate, Prime Rate, Federal Funds, 3-month Treasury Bills, 30-year bonds, and various currency exchange rates.

Table with columns for GOLD and NORTH SEA OIL. Includes data for London Fixing, AM, COMEX, and Brent oil prices.

Advertisement for BPB INDUSTRIES. Features the text '30% Profit increase' and a table showing Year to 31st March 1986 and 1985 data for Turnover, Profit before tax, Attributable profit, Earnings per share, and Dividends per share.

WALL STREET

New York (Agency) - Shares were slightly lower in early trading yesterday as profit-taking interrupted a two-day rally. The Dow Jones industrial average slipped by 1.33 points to 1,853.72.

Analysts said that investors have been concentrating on interest-sensitive stocks. Utilities continued to rise yesterday, while the market index, sagged.

Declining shares out-

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
AAER	59 1/2	Fraxione	24	Polar	69 1/2
AAER	59 1/2	Fraxione	24	Polar	69 1/2
AAER	59 1/2	Fraxione	24	Polar	69 1/2

FOREIGN EXCHANGES

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Market rates	Market rates	1 month	3 months
NY/UK 1.2595-1.2596	1.2575-1.2585	1.2575-1.2585	1.2575-1.2585
London 1.2595-1.2596	1.2575-1.2585	1.2575-1.2585	1.2575-1.2585

Starting more than a cent down against the dollar at one time, picked up yesterday, to finish a net 20 points easier at 1.5180, still buoyed by relatively high interest rates. Its effective exchange rate index closed 0.1 lower at 76.0.

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
SUGAR (From C. Colombo)	128.0-128.5	COFFEE	157.0-157.5
Gold	128.0-128.5	COFFEE	157.0-157.5

COMMODITIES

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK COMMODITIES

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
Cattle	100.20-100.25	Sheep	100.00-100.05
Pigs	100.00-100.05	Poultry	100.00-100.05

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

EURO MONEY DEPOSITS %

Rate	Rate	Rate	Rate
3 months 7.5%	6 months 7.5%	9 months 7.5%	12 months 7.5%

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

OTHER STERLING RATES

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
Argentina	1.2340-1.2350	Canada	1.2340-1.2350
France	1.2340-1.2350	Germany	1.2340-1.2350

CANADIAN PRICES

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
Aluminum	1.2340-1.2350	Steel	1.2340-1.2350
Grain	1.2340-1.2350	Oil	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

GOLD

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
Gold	1.2340-1.2350	Silver	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

EGD

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
EGD	1.2340-1.2350	EGD	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
3 month Sterling	90.50	6 month Sterling	90.50

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

GOLD

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
Gold	1.2340-1.2350	Silver	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

EGD

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
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MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

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MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

EGD

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MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

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MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

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MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

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MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

EGD

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MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

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MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

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MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

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MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

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MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

GOLD

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MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

EGD

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
EGD	1.2340-1.2350	EGD	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
3 month Sterling	90.50	6 month Sterling	90.50

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350	177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350	177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350	177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350	177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350	177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350	177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350	177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350	177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

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Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350	177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350	177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350	177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350	177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350	177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350	177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350

MONEY MARKETS AND GOLD

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Symbol	Change	Symbol	Change
177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350	177 0/8	1.2340-1.2350

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TEMPUS

BPB surprises with high-rise profits

Shareholders in BPB should be forgiven if they found the urge to take profits almost irresistible. Their shares have risen from a low of 212p a year ago to 511p yesterday, up 23p on the day. Better-than-expected results for the year to March, however, indicate that even at their new level the shares are not overvalued.

Profits rose from £79 million to £103 million before tax. British building materials, mostly plaster and plasterboard, increased their contribution by 11 per cent to £32.4 million.

Canada and France showed the largest increases, reflecting better demand. In Canada's case, the fall in the Canadian dollar against the American currency helped exports. And a good market in France means that rival French plasterboard companies should be less anxious to penetrate the British market.

Healthy cash flow eliminated the company's debt and at the year-end there was net cash of £10 million. Since the year-end, however, BPB has spent between £25 million and £30 million on acquisitions on the Continent and more are planned. These are likely to be for cash rather than paper.

The company seems no more concerned to raise its profile in the City generally now that it is valued at nearly £1 billion than it did a year ago when it was valued at just £400 million, preferring instead to concentrate its attention on existing shareholders. It would be fair to conclude from this that BPB is unlikely to expand its shareholder base in the near future.

Estimates for the current year were being hurriedly upgraded yesterday, with £125 million now the target for some analysts. On that basis the shares are trading on a multiple of 12.

Sovereign Gas & Oil

Shareholders who have been wondering what has happened to Sovereign Oil & Gas's 1985 annual report need wonder no longer. It is

to be posted today with details of the sever for 30 rights issue announced yesterday. At 23p a share, the issue will raise £2.5 million.

Sovereign has also negotiated revised terms for the Sovereign Explorer, a deep-water semisubmersible drilling rig which has three years to run of its five-year contract.

The oil price fall and consequent drop in drilling activity has caused a slump in drilling rig rates. Market rates are not much more than \$20,000 (£13,500) a day for rigs of all types, compared with \$81,000 for the Sovereign Explorer when working and \$53,000 when not working.

Without renegotiation, Sovereign's cash-flows, already severely squeezed by the oil price, would have had an additional burden placed on them by the rig commitments.

The agreement is designed to give Sovereign flexibility, and the company believes that it has bought survival until 1992 in terms of the rig. Clearly it wants to do more than just hang on for the next six years, but for that it needs an increase in the oil price.

The deal involves a retainer of £10 million spread over the next six years and payable out of 25 per cent of Sovereign's surplus cash. If there is insufficient cash, (which will occur if the oil price does not rise) then the year's payment is waived until 1992. Depending on the rate of repayment, there will be an additional maximum surcharge of £2 million.

The company is paying all its cash-flows from the Forties and Claymore oilfields to the banks. This leaves Brae, where 70 per cent of cash-flows are committed to loan and interest repayments. Consequently, unless the oil price rises, there probably will not be enough of a surplus to repay any of the retainer this year, or even next.

The rights issue is supported by four of its biggest shareholders who own 49 per cent of the stock. They will take up their rights and underwrite the balance: £2.5

million should see the company through the short term. Sovereign has bought time in which it must hope that the oil price rises to a level which makes the North Sea a commercial proposition once more. The shareholders must hope that it happens quickly.

ISE

For Industrial Scotland Energy, it has been a short life, but for the shareholders not a particularly merry one.

Barely two years since the company was introduced to the USM at 110p, Texas Gas Resources Corporation, the American transport group, is offering 90p a share in cash in a bid which values ISE at £20.5 million.

On hopes of a bid, the market price has risen strongly since the middle of March, reaching its present 86p from its low point of 40p, where it sank after the rights issue at 120p in January. As a result of the rights issue, it has 40p-a-share cash on its balance sheet.

Since the departure of Mr Malcolm Butler, former managing director, the company has been running down staff, fuelling speculation that it was up for sale. Employees are now down to six in London, two in France and one at Houston, Texas.

In relation to the asset value, the new managing director, Mr Colin Leslie, described the offer as fair; and in recognition of the commercial realities, the directors are recommending it.

The main attractions to the purchaser are the exploration blocks in the United Kingdom southern gas sector and the onshore acreage in the Paris Basin. There were several disappointed bidders in the last French licensing round which attracted 170 bids for 11 blocks and ISE's blocks could be attractive to other potential bidders.

It seems that ISE has been talking to a variety of parties, but given the depressed state of the oil market, Mr Leslie is not optimistic that there will be a higher bid, which is no comfort to those shareholders and underwriters who took stock in the rights issue at 120p in January.

Attack on textile trade barriers

By Edward Townsend Industrial Correspondent

Britain's clothing and textile industries yesterday launched a concerted drive to persuade the British and European governments to act against countries that have thrown up trade barriers against British goods.

The panoply of import restrictions, tariffs, quotas and bans operated by many countries against British clothing and textiles is costing thousands of jobs and stifling further investment, according to the joint Economic Development Committee for the industries.

In a comprehensive study of practices in 109 countries, the EDC, representing employers and trade unions, argues that countries such as Brazil and South Korea are no longer struggling developing nations and cannot justify stringent import restrictions.

With negotiations on the renewal of the controversial Multi Fibre Arrangement, which governs international trade in textiles, due to be completed by the end of next month, and a new round of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade under discussion, the EDC said it was timely to impress on all concerned the gravity of the problem facing Britain.

Mr Harry Leach, the president of the British Textile Confederation, said yesterday that the report would be going to politicians and trade groups throughout Europe. "We are going to ram it down their throats," he said.

The study, heralded by the EDC as one of the most detailed investigations of world import restrictions, shows that 70 per cent of United Kingdom clothing and textile exports are sold to totally open markets although they account for only 20 per cent of world gross national product.

In contrast, 13 per cent of United Kingdom exports go to markets that are difficult to penetrate but which together account for 40 per cent of world GNP.

Lifting the Barriers to Trade, NEDO Books, National Economic Development Office, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1P 4QX. £9.50

STOCK MARKET REPORT

Dixons raises its holding in Woolworth to 5.3%

By Michael Clark

Mr Stanley Kalms, Dixons's chairman, was playing a daring game of brinkmanship yesterday as he geared himself up for the final stage of the £1.900 million battle for control of rival Woolworth.

According to the Dixons camp everything is going according to plan. Until now, Mr Kalms has purposely avoided buying Woolworth shares in the market and left the price to drift. Earlier this week, it touched 720p, compared with Dixons's cash alternative of 805p.

This was done to show City institutions that if they miss the boat now and reject the offer, it could be some time before they see Woolworth above £8 again.

Having made the point, Dixons's broker, Cazenove, marched into the market on Wednesday night to test the water and, within the space of 24 hours, had mopped up 2.7 million Woolworth shares at 760p, taking its total holding to 5.3 per cent.

Dixons's shares seemed pleased with the efforts yesterday, rising 4p to 340p, while Woolworth advanced 15p, to close at 760p.

Having peered into the abyss, Mr Kalms is now hoping that the big fund managers will throw their weight behind Dixons's offer. They have until next Wednesday to make up their minds.

Yesterday also marked the start of trading in Dixons's shares on the traded options market. But, apart from some support from brokers such as Scrimgeour Vickers, turnover remained low.

The rest of the equity market put up another solid performance, helped by the overnight buying on Wall Street and the introduction of

"new time" buying for the new account next week.

Dealers claim that money will soon start to trickle back into the system once investors know their allocations for the Morgan Grenfell and Thames Television issues.

Leading shares led the way higher, helped by selective support from New York. ICL, up 18p at 984p, Beecham, 3p at 306p, Cadbury Schweppes, 2p at 184p and Reuters, 6p at

290p after learning that a party of 20 City analysts had gone on a trip to one of the group's textile factories in Barcelona. The market is clearly hoping for some good news about the company on their return. The shares of Courtaulds have been enjoying something of a re-rating over the past 18 months and are expected to do even better in the short-term.

In foods, Bejam, the frozen foods retailer, stood out with an 11p rise to 167p following some hefty buying of the shares by several big funds managers. There is also talk that a bid may be imminent. Once again the name of Tesco is being mentioned.

Addison Page, Chetwynd Streets, the advertising and public relations consultant, held steady at 133p as several directors decided to unload stock on the market. Mr Michael Page and Mr Steve Smith have both sold 575,000 shares each for an undisclosed price.

The sale reduces Mr Page's holding to 4.396 million shares and Mr Smith's stake to 4.399 million. Earlier this week, APCS - soon to change its name to Addison Consultancy Group - bought Taylor Nelson, a market research company, for £4.8 million.

Meanwhile, a rival, Charles Barker, is linking up with Nihon Keizai-sha Advertising, a Japanese financial communications company more commonly known as Nikkeisha.

Barker says it hopes to pick up business from Japanese clients of Nikkeisha which will benefit from on-the-spot service which cannot be provided from Tokyo. The market seemed to like the idea and marked Barker's shares 2p higher at 153p.

The big insurance companies extended their recent rally following the overnight strength on Wall Street with Commercial Union 3p up at 308p, General Accident 2p higher at 839p, Guardian Royal Exchange 10p to 877p, Royal Insurance a similar figure at 877p and Sun Alliance 7p better at 694p. The market is now discounting fears about moves to reduce premiums in the US.

Among insurance brokers, Allied Lyons rose another 5p to 358p yesterday, making 10p in two days. Dealers reported a big turnover on the traded options market. Elders IXL is expected to be given Monopolies Commission permission soon to proceed with its bid and may come back with a higher offer.

CE Heath firmed another 1p to 545p following the shake-out earlier in the week stemming from reports of a \$1,000 million lawsuit facing the company in the US courts.

Stewart Wrightson stood out with 20p rise to 412p in a thin market, while Wilfs Faber continued to reflect its holding in Morgan Grenfell, the merchant bank, where dealings are due to start next week with a 7p rise to 429p.

The Kuwait Investment Office has reduced its holding in the company to 3 million shares, or 6.56 per cent of the total. Mutual Shares Corporation has been buying more shares in Lombar, Mr Roland "Tiny" Rowland's overseas trading group. It has bought an extra 2.5 million shares and now holds, through its various funds, 23.25 million shares. All of them are registered in the name of Bank of New York Nominees.

Lombar responded to the news with a 6p rise to 249p. Vickers was buoyant, with a 13p rise to 473p, after reports that the European Court is expected to rule on its claim for compensation from the Government on July 8.

The group, which owns Rolls-Royce Motors, is claiming about £150 million following the nationalization of its shipbuilding and aircraft production interests in 1977.

RECENT ISSUES

EQUITIES

Accord Pub (125p)	141
Alumina (150p)	149
Antar (130p)	115-3
Arlington (115p)	185+2
Ashley (110p)	111
Benetton (145p)	151
Black (147p)	137
Br Island (80p)	56
Brodere (145p)	183
Campbell Armstrong (110p)	103-2
Clark Hooper (130p)	151
Coated Electronics (84p)	91
Dalepack (107p)	128
Dean & B (50p)	82
Densiron (50p)	63
Eagle (30p)	40-2
Evans Halshaw (120p)	118
Fields (MRS) (140p)	120
Guthrie Corp (150p)	155+1
Haggis (J) (140p)	143
Holsten (80p)	91
Jury's Hotel (115p)	102
Lopez (145p)	128
Microtype (57p)	153
Savage (100p)	104
Smallbone (165p)	179
Soundtracks (40p)	35-2
Task Force (85p)	105
Templeton (215p)	210+2
Terby Ind (112p)	118

RIGHTS ISSUES

Amari N/P	4 1/2
Autofagasta N/P	100-13
Ciffords Dairies N/P	30
Green (J) N/P	355+5
De La Rue N/P	140
Five Oaks N/P	10+1
Friendly Hotels N/P	5
Gerrard F/P	337+6
Isotock Johnson N/P	28
Molyne F/P	92
Nat West F/P	50
Pennapple N/P	57

(Issue price in brackets)

NEXT WEDNESDAY IS YOUR LAST DAY TO REJECT THE DIXONS OFFER.



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First a few questions about your business. What are your strengths and weaknesses? How does the acquisition fit in with your corporate objectives? Is it the right time to diversify? How can you marshal all the resources you will need? What return should you expect? How can you identify the right target? What benefits will accrue? And what problems.

Secondly, a question about our business. shouldn't you talk to us? We're one of the world's largest and fastest growing firms of Chartered Accountants, with over 450 offices in more than 90 countries. We offer a positive, integrated and proven consultative service to individuals and companies proposing a major acquisition. Our aim is to enable your Board to reach a sound and successful decision first time by assigning our multi-disciplined specialist team to assist you with all or any stage of the acquisition process.

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The Ian McIsaac, Corporate Finance Group, Touche Ross, Hill House, 1 Little New Street, London EC4A 3TR. Telephone: 01-353 8011.

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STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

Further gains by equities

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings began June 16. Dealings end today. Contango day Monday. Settlement day July 7.
\$Foreign bargains are permitted on two previous business days.

Portfolio Gold
From your portfolio card check your eight share price movements. Add them up to give you your overall total. Check this against the daily dividend figure published on this page. If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card. You must always have your card available when claiming.

Portfolio Gold
DAILY DIVIDEND £4,000
Claims required for +40 points
Claimants should ring 0254-53272

Table with columns: No., Company, Group, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Lists various companies like Pearson, Scott & New, Cadbury-Schwepps, etc.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Section titled 'BREWERIES' listing companies like Allied Lyons, Row & Col, etc.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Section titled 'BUILDINGS AND ROADS' listing companies like Arrol-Johnston, etc.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Section titled 'FINANCE AND LAND' listing companies like Abertop, etc.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Section titled 'E-K' listing companies like Eason Food, etc.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Section titled 'INSURANCE' listing companies like Abey Life, etc.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Section titled 'OVERSEAS TRADERS' listing companies like Barmouth, etc.

Table with columns: Day, Dividend. Section titled 'Weekly Dividend'.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Section titled 'BRITISH FUNDS'.

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Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Section titled 'CHEMICALS, PLASTICS'.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Section titled 'CINEMAS AND TV'.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Section titled 'DRAPERY AND STORES'.

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Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Section titled 'INDUSTRIALS S-Z'.

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Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Section titled 'MOTORCARS AND AIRCRAFT'.

Table with columns: No., Company, Price, Chgs, Div, Yld, P/E. Section titled 'SHOES AND LEATHER'.

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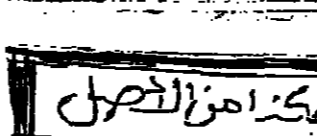
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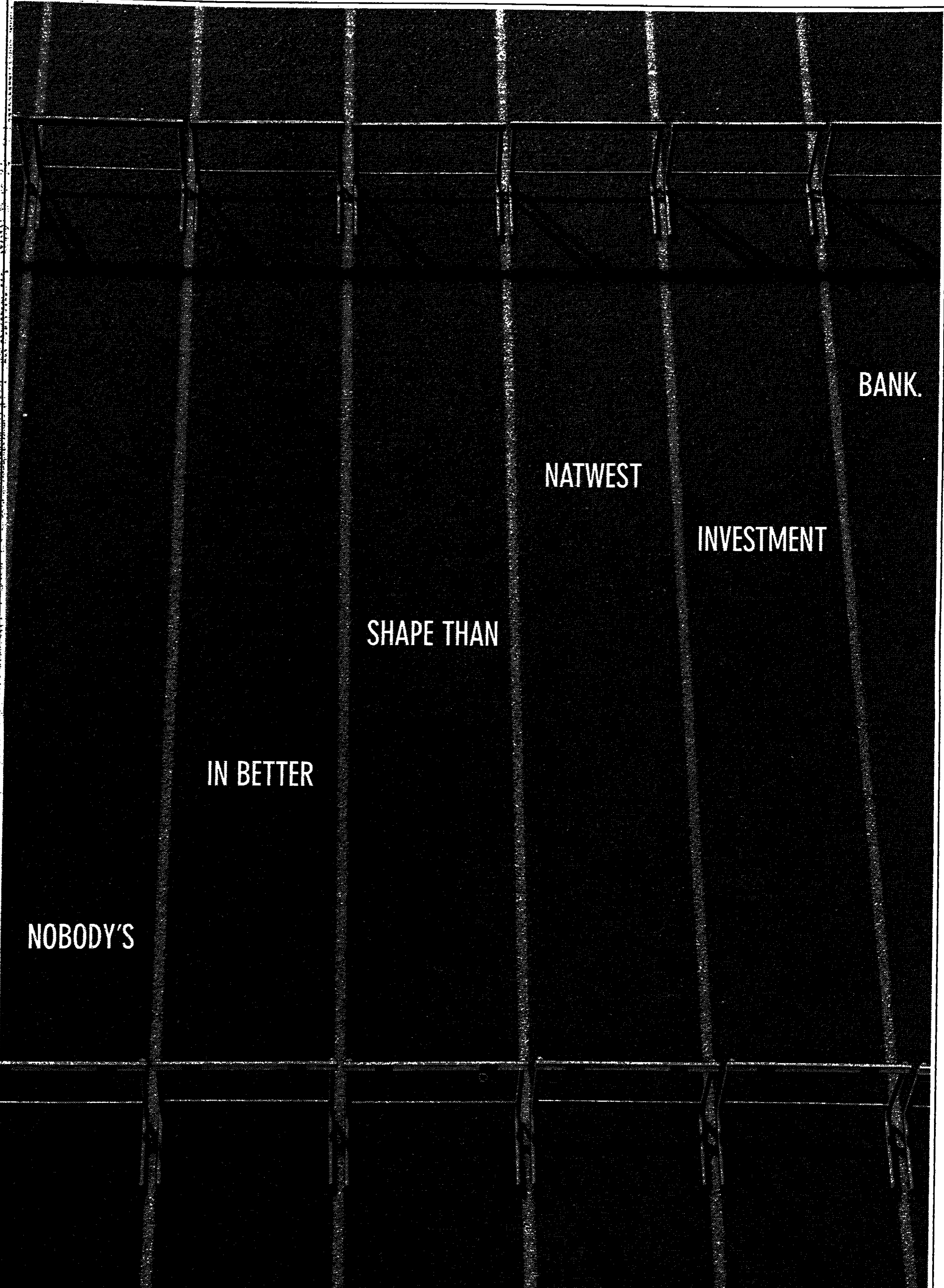
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As investment banks race to reorganise, a major new force emerges.

The NatWest Investment Bank Group.

Making the connection between the massive strength and commitment of the NatWest Group, and the skills and the flair of County Bank, Fieldings and County Bisgood.

Offering you a new, clear, logical structure, which puts together a full range of investment banking operations in a way which takes full account of the need for close working relationships.

Bringing you hand-picked teams of some of the ablest people in the industry.

And yet continuing to maintain the Group's traditional

commitment to excellence, to innovation and to service. If you've done business with any part of the Group before now, you'll find we're better placed than ever to help you.

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It seems there could hardly be a better time to start.

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Your first Rolls-Royce.

It takes at least three months to make it. One hour to fall in love with it.



There is nothing quite like driving a Rolls-Royce. An hour behind the wheel is more persuasive than words can ever be.

dealers listed below will be pleased to arrange a test drive for you.

A brief glance at the classified pages will also give you some idea of the range of Rolls-Royce and Bentley motor cars available for resale.

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BOURNEMOUTH Armit of Bournemouth Ron Norton (0202) 570575	GREENFORD H. R. Owen Julian Catts 01-898 7891	MAIDSTONE Dutton-Forsyth Kent Tim Siga (0222) 85481	SHEFFIELD Kennings Colin Barker (0742) 761141
BREISTOL Bristol Motor Company Michael Warrick (0272) 286491	GUILDFORD Western Stringer Davin Boyce (0483) 65207	MANCHESTER Stratton (Walslow) Derek Pundy (0225) 632308	SOLIHULL Evans Haldshaw Bill Somerville 021-746 5588
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CHELTENHAM S. P. Broughton Bob Durans (0842) 579522	LEICESTER Appleyard Rippon John Thurland (0532) 432731	NORWICH Anthony Hesse NOTTINGHAM 0603 628383	THORPE BAY SMAAC Group Michael Goldsmith (0702) 582233
CHESTER Hendy (Midland) Peter Todd (0244) 313901	LONDON Jack Bentley Malcolm Sargent 01-629 7444	PESHTA Grassie George James D. Dalgleish (0738) 25481	TORQUAY H. A. Fox Evan Bradshaw (0803) 24321
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Offered exclusively by the authorised Rolls-Royce and Bentley dealers of Great Britain.

Company profits fall after reaching their highest for 12 years

By David Smith
Economics Correspondent

Companies' profitability rose last year to its highest level since 1973, according to an article in the Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin, published yesterday.

However, figures from the Central Statistical Office show that, in the first quarter, company profits fell by 4 per cent.

North Sea companies reported a 24 per cent slump in profits compared with the fourth quarter of last year, more than offsetting a 4 per cent increase for other companies.

The Bank's annual article on company profitability and finance records that pretax rates of return for non-North Sea companies rose to 8 per cent last year, the fourth successive annual rise.

The pretax rate of return for all companies, including the North Sea oil companies, rose to 12.5 per cent, the best since 1960, before North Sea oil was exploited.

There was a marked contrast between the experience of North Sea and non-oil companies last year, according to the article. North Sea profits were hit by the slump in sterling oil prices, and a slowdown, to 2 per cent, in the rise in production.

But, for other companies, profits were buoyant, and the main factor was a widening of profit margins because of a declining rate of increase of fuel and raw material costs.

Last year, industry's output prices rose by 5.5 per cent. Of this, 3.1 per cent was due to higher unit labour costs, 0.6 per cent to raw material costs, and 1.9 per cent to a widening of margins. Margins have recovered by an average of 2 per cent a year since falling by 3.7 per cent in 1980.

Unit labour costs rose last year at the fastest rate since 1981, mainly because of the productivity slowdown.

Without this, the boost to company profits from the improved picture on raw material and fuel costs would have been even more substantial, assuming that the savings were not all passed on to customers.

Another reason for the improvement in profitability last year, the Bank says, was more efficient use of capital and, in particular, improved stock control.

Despite improved profitability, companies suffered a loss of cost competitiveness last year, mainly because of fast rising unit labour costs. As a result, they were obliged to hold back on export margins, instead widening domestic margins.

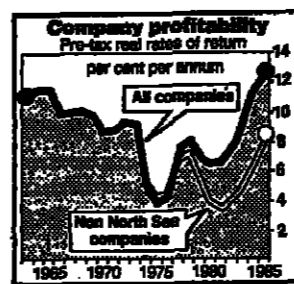
The Bank is not optimistic about further improvements in company profitability this year.

Last year's increases could be attributed to the windfall gains of lower oil and raw material prices. This year, the rate at which such costs are falling has declined.

As a result of this and the pressure from strongly rising labour costs, the Bank concludes, companies may be forced to squeeze margins.

The fall in the pound's value against the EEC currencies since the middle of last year has cushioned this effect, but "margins may come under increasing pressure later this year as companies strive to maintain the competitiveness of their goods."

The Bank sees no diminishing of companies' appetite for external finance, but expects that a greater proportion of this will be in the form of long-term bonds and commercial paper in the coming months.



Company profitability (Pre-tax real rate of return) per cent per annum

All companies

Non-North Sea companies

North Sea oil companies

1965 1970 1975 1980 1985

Mexico in last-ditch debt talks

From Bailey Morris
Washington

United States and Mexican officials are meeting in Washington in a last-ditch attempt to negotiate a new debt financing plan before a crucial repayment deadline on Monday.

Senior Gustavo Petricoli has new financing proposals, including one that would link repayments of Mexico's \$97 billion (\$64 billion) debt to oil revenues, officials said.

The new proposals, which had the strong backing of President Miguel de la Madrid were presented to US Treasury and International Monetary Fund officials. Mexico's foreign reserves have plummeted to \$2.5 billion, not enough to meet all of the June interest and principal payments.

Senior Petricoli said Mexico's ability to meet the payments hinges on progress in the new negotiations. In addition to IMF officials, he is meeting the Federal Reserve Board chairman, Mr Paul Volcker, and the US Treasury Secretary, Mr James Baker.

Both officials have promised emergency assistance if Mexico agrees to undertake stringent domestic economic reforms.

Mexican officials said the new proposals include some controversial suggestions, aimed at allowing the country to achieve growth of about 3 per cent to 4 per cent next year.

These included a proposal that banks accept a new repayment schedule to cater for Mexico's oil earnings which have dropped sharply, a proposal for lower interest rates and other "options".

Meanwhile, IMF officials, who have been under strong pressure to relax the conditions attached to a new loan from Mexico, said they were close to reaching a compromise on the critical issue of domestic deficit reduction.

Senior Petricoli's mission in Washington is to formally request an IMF standby loan of about \$1.3 billion. Once it wins IMF approval, Mexico will seek \$3 billion in additional money from governments and institutional lenders and another \$3.5 billion from commercial banks.

Howard calms liability fears

By Derek Harris, Industrial Editor

Implementation in Britain of the European directive on product liability should not have any significant effect on either the availability or the cost of product liability insurance, according to Mr Michael Howard, Minister for Consumer Affairs, yesterday.

Mr Howard made this claim in a clear attempt to allay industry fears about the effects of tightening up regulations.

The "continuing nightmare" of product liability law in the United States would not be repeated in Britain, he maintained, because the system would avoid certain features of the US system.

In Britain there would be no jury system, with its US history of awarding high damages, nor two other features blamed for such awards - the practice of punitive damages and the contingency fee system.

In Britain the principle of contributory negligence, virtually abandoned in the US with some absurd results, would be maintained in Britain, Mr Howard pointed out.

Some confusion seemed to exist about the general effects of the European directive, said Mr Howard. He added: "In my view, based on evidence from a vast range of sources, fears about a repetition of the US nightmare here are largely unfounded."

Since November, the Government has been consulting industrialists on the legislative changes necessary to bring Britain into line with the European directive. The result is expected shortly.

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This advertisement is published by S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd. on behalf of Dixons Group plc ("Dixons"). The Directors of Dixons are the persons responsible for the information contained in this advertisement. To the best of their knowledge and belief (having taken all reasonable care to ensure that such is the case) the information in this advertisement is in accordance with the facts. The Directors of Dixons accept responsibility accordingly.

Dixons

OFFER FOR WOOLWORTH

DIXONS INCREASED OFFER WORTH

826.1p

WOOLWORTH SHARE PRICE

760.0p

DIXONS BID HIGHER BY

66.1p

Dixons increased offer is final. Acceptances should be received by 1.00p.m. on 2nd July, 1986.

The increased offer will close at 1.00 p.m. on 2nd July, 1986 unless it has by or on that date become unconditional as to acceptances. Dixons has reserved the right, however, to revise, increase, and/or extend the increased offer in a competitive situation. If you require copies of documents, further information, or assistance in completing your Form of Acceptance, please contact S. G. Warburg & Co. Ltd. at: 33 King William Street, London EC4R 9AS, telephone 01-280 2222.

The value of Dixons increased offer (based on the value of Dixons securities being offered in exchange for Woolworth Shares) has been computed by reference to a price for Dixons Ordinary Shares of 340p, based on market prices at 3.30p.m. on 26th June, 1986, after adjusting for Dixons forecast 1985/86 final dividend of 2.4225p (net) per share, and an estimate of the value of a Dixons Convertible Preference Share of 99.30p.

Cazenove & Co., stockbrokers to Dixons, have confirmed that, based on market conditions on 26th June, 1986, a reasonable estimate of the value of each Dixons Ordinary Share would have been 99.30p. The value of a Woolworth Share, which is quoted on an ex-dividend basis, has been based on market prices at 3.30p.m. on 26th June, 1986.

BASE LENDING RATES

ABN	10.00%
Adam & Company	10.00%
BCCI	10.00%
Citibank Savings	10.75%
Consolidated Cris	10.00%
Continental Trust	10.00%
Co-operative Bank	10.00%
C. I. Bank	10.00%
Hong Kong & Shanghai	10.00%
Lloyds Bank	10.00%
Met Westminster	10.00%
Royal Bank of Scotland	10.00%
TSB	10.00%
Citibank WA	10.00%

† Mortgage Base Rate.

TOTAL

TOTAL COMPAGNIE FRANÇAISE DES PÉTROLES IN 1985

Annual Shareholders' Meeting of June 20, 1986

The Ordinary General Shareholders' Meeting of TOTAL CFP, held on June 20, 1986 with Mr François-Xavier OSTOIA, Chairman presiding, approved the accounts for 1985. All the resolutions were adopted.

In his address, the Chairman, without wishing to prejudge the consolidated results for the year as a whole, noted that as far as the first half was concerned, cash flow and economic performance would show a substantial increase. These improved results will only be sufficient however to partially offset stockholding losses. He also noted that if prices were to remain at present levels the greater part of the stockholding losses for 1986 would have been recorded during the first half.

With regard to the second half, results will clearly depend on variations in crude prices, which are as ever an unknown factor. Moreover, it may be hoped that the downstream sector will confirm the recent return to positive margins.

The Chairman went on to stress that the Group possessed the resources and experience not only to confront the oil "counter-shock" but also, if possible, to use it as a means for further development. It is with a view to increasing this capacity still further that the Company recently decided to effect a capital increase, the results of which have to date been very encouraging.

1985 in brief

Financial performance

1985 has seen further recovery despite stockholding losses as a result of the decline in the dollar.

The consolidated financial statements at year-end show a cash flow of 7.9 billion francs and net income amounting to 1.4 billion francs.

Investments totalled 8 billion francs, of which 5 billion went to exploration, production and development and 1.7 billion to refining and marketing.

Activities

- The year saw:
 - increase in total fittings (49 million tons of oil; 5.7 billion m³ of gas);
 - development of the Group's international trading position;
 - encouraging results in exploration, notably in France;
 - the merging of the refining and marketing sectors in France;
 - the change of name of COMPAGNIE FRANÇAISE DES PÉTROLES to TOTAL COMPAGNIE FRANÇAISE DES PÉTROLES.

The General meeting expanded the term of office of Mr René GRANIER de LULLAC, Honorary President, as a director of the Company and appointed Mr Jérôme MONOD a director.

Some figures for 1985	
on the Group	
- Resources:	
Oil (millions of tons)	48.0
Gas (billions of m ³)	5.7
- Financial data (consolidated in billions of francs)	
Sales	173.0
- In France	58.0
- outside France	117.0
Cash flow	7.9
Earnings	1.4
Net investments	8.0
on the parent company	
Sales (in billions of francs)	76.0
Net income (in billions of francs)	1.6
Dividend per share: 20F (= tax credit of 10F).	
Date of dividend payment: June 27	

The brochure "TOTAL COMPAGNIE FRANÇAISE DES PÉTROLES IN 1985" can be obtained in English and French from Service Diffusion - 5, rue Michel-Ange - 75781 Paris Cedex 16 - France.

COMPANY NEWS

and pretax profit to 2.611 (£1.484). Earnings per share jumped to 20.54 (17.77p).

● **MK ELECTRIC GROUP:** Turnover for 52 weeks to March 29 (figures in £million) was up to 128.5 (£127.1), with pretax profit slipping to 17.7 (£16.1) and earnings per share to 27.4p (30.3p).

● **ANDERSON STRATECLYDE:** A dividend of 2.72p (all) is included in the results for the year to March 31. With figures in £000, turnover rose to 175,277 (£170,787) and pretax profit to 3,614 (£3,354) loss. Earnings per share rose to 6p (6.1p) loss.

● **CHANNEL TUNNEL INVESTMENTS:** No income for 1985 from listed investments (gross) slipped to £14,087 (£14,354), with pretax profit to £2,661 (£3,230) and earnings per share to 0.13p (0.15p).

● **AG BAR:** An interim dividend of 2.5p (1.75p) has been declared for the half year to April 25. With figures in £000, group turnover was up to 16,887 (£15,785), trading profit to £1,312 (£2,355) and earnings per share to 17.03p (14.35p).

● **BOC GROUP:** The company is raising up to £50 million, using sterling commercial paper, to supplement other sources of short-term borrowing and to replace existing borrowings.

● **ELDRIDGE POPE AND CO:** An interim dividend of 3.25p (2.4p) is included in the results for the six months to March 31. With figures in £000, turnover rose to 12,838 (£11,331), pretax profit to 1,428 (£939) and earnings per share to 11.4p (7.1p).

● **MORGATE MER-CANTILE HOLDINGS:** The final dividend is 1.1p (1p), making 1.6p (1.45p) for the year to March 31. With figures in £000, turnover was 25,824 (£24,586), operating profit was 3,629 (£2,584), interest payable 2,590 (£1,754), pretax profit 1,039 (£830) and tax 420 (£265). Earnings per share were 2.61p (2.55p).

● **EF HOLDINGS:** There will be no dividend. Turnover for the year to March 29, with figures in £000 was 71,028 (£72,999). The profit on ordinary activities before interest and exchange fluctuations was 2,872 (£2,136).

● **BORLAND INTERNATIONAL:** Schroders' notices that 1,217 valid applications have been received in respect of 13,229,200 shares. Applications by Banque Paribas and Prominvest for a total of 2,650,000 shares, in respect of which irrevocable commitments to apply were given, will be allotted in full.

● **HARGREAVES GROUP:** Year to March 31, 1986. Total dividend 5.3p (4.5p). Turnover £306.12 million (£397.75 million). Pretax profit £9.02 million (£7.1 million). Earnings per share 15.1p (9.8p).

● **CREST NICHOLSON:** Half-year to April 30, 1986. Interim dividend 1.75p (1.5p). Turnover £69.27 million (£60.47 million). Pretax profit £2.6 million (£2.2 million). Earnings per share 2.54p (2.12p). The board is confident that 1986 will be another good year for the enlarged group and that 1987 should benefit to an even greater extent from the merger with P&O.

● **COURTIS (FURNISHERS):** Year to March 31, 1986. Total dividend 4.7p (same). Turnover £90.21 million (£86.9 million). Pretax profit £6 million (£6.9 million). Earnings per share

before extraordinary item, 17.1p (17.4p).

● **STONWOOD BREWERY:** Year to March 31, 1986. Total dividend 10.8p (10p). Turnover £30.46 million (£25.28 million). Pretax profit £2.04 million (£2.5 million). Earnings per share (adjusted for rights issue) 35.1p (52.7p).

● **OCEAN WILSONS (HOLDINGS):** Total dividend for 1985 3.75p (2.95p). Turnover £46.26 million (£47.64 million). Pretax profit £4.88 million (£4.71 million). The board proposes a one-for-two scrip issue. Earnings per share 8.5p (8.03p).

● **BROWN & JACKSON:** No dividend (same) for 1985. Turnover £52.55 million (£136.47 million). Pretax profit £540,000 (£73,000). Loss per share 0.11p (1.33p).

● **BTP (formerly British Tar Products):** Year to March 31, 1986. Final dividend 3p (compared with the interim forecast of 2.5p), making 4.5p (3.5p). Turnover £49.61 million (£38.7 million). Pretax profit £4.3 million (£4.01 million). Earnings per share 8.3p (7.62p). The board reports that the current year has started well, BTP is in a strong financial position and prospects are good.

● **JAMES L. HAM:** Year to March 31, 1986. Total dividend 14.25p (13.25p). Turnover £37.01 million (£35.33 million). Pretax profit £1.9 million (£1.65 million). Earnings per share 49p (47.9p).

More company news on page 27

● **CH INDUSTRIALS:** Year to March 29, 1986. Total dividend 2.4p (2.11p). Turnover £30.29 million (£22.77 million). Pretax profit £1.45 million (£1.45 million). Earnings per share 8.7p (7.05p).

● **SUPERDRUG STORES:** First quarter to May 31, 1986. Turnover (excluding VAT) £44.06 million (£35.47 million). Pretax profit £1.92 million (£1.82 million).

● **ADAM LEISURE GROUP:** No interim dividend (same) for the half-year to Feb. 28, 1986. Turnover £4.86 million (£5.89 million). Pretax loss £325,000 (£494,000). Loss per share 1.30p (0.94p). The board is now confident that the group has a much stronger product range for 1986 and 1987, which will go a long way to assist in its continued recovery.

● **CENTROVINCIAL ESTATES:** Total dividend unchanged at 6p for the year to March 31, 1986. Gross rental income £9.21 million (£8.85 million). Net revenue before tax on ordinary activities arising from investment properties £3.45 million (£2.89 million). Earnings per share 7p (12.34p). Net asset value per share 235p (281p). Based on projections and current market conditions, the board reports that there should be a substantial improvement in earnings for 1987.

● **CHEMWRING GROUP:** Half-year to March 27, 1986. Interim dividend 6p (5p). Pretax profit £5.76 million (£3.29 million) and export £1.3 million (£815,700). Pretax profit £1.28 million (£753,800). Earnings per share 25.8p (20.6p).

● **CECIL GEE:** The annual meeting was told that the board expects both the half-year and the full year to show a significant improvement in trading results.

s fall their years Mexico ditch debt talks

Hambros: Mr JM Clay has been made vice-chairman and Mr JCL Keswick and Mr CH Spierberg joint deputy chairmen.

Reshuffle at Hambros

Adrian J Parsons has become group chief executive and chief executive of Dalton.

Steeley Brick & Tile: Mr Arthur Barnard becomes marketing director and Mr Mike Harris sales director.

Rank Amusements: Mr John Murphy has been appointed managing director and Mr Ray Mercy finance director from July 14.

COMPANY NEWS

SPICE: Six months to March 31, 1986. Interim dividend 0.26p (nil). Turnover £9.87 million (£8.86 million).

UNLISTED SECURITIES

Table with columns for USMA-D, USM-S-Z, USML-R, and USME-K. Each column lists company names, prices, and changes.

Portsmouth and Sunderland Newspapers, plc

There were two main reasons for the Company's disappointing results during the year ended March 1986.

In combination, these factors produced a Group pre-tax current cost accounting loss of £166,000, and a historical profit of £1,303,000 - 53 per cent reduction on last year's £2,769,000.

Lower profit in the Portsmouth and Sunderland centres coincided with vigorous development in free newspapers.

Last year I said I would be disappointed if the Company's total profit did not again improve this year.

In June, 1985, there was a bonus issue of one 10.5 per cent cumulative preference share for each ordinary share held.

It is ironic to report so poor a profit in the year that the Company made a dramatic breakthrough in the introduction of single keyboarding.

This success was achieved when Portsmouth management made an agreement with staff, the National Graphical Association, and the National Union of Journalists.

I trust that orderly agreements made in the provincial Press will herald an approach to industrial relations based less on competition, and more on co-operation.

With local agreements for the proper use of technology, and in the face of more competition, some companies are questioning the desirability of national agreements.

The Whitbread Annual Report is now available. It contains the full story of another successful year: pre-tax profits to 1st March 1986 were up to £129.6 million, a 17.7% increase on 1985.

BEER, BREWING AND WHOLESALING

Beer, brewing and wholesaling achieved a 14.8% increase in turnover to £586.3 million. Operating profits of £81.2 million (a 15.2% increase) accounted for 48% of the Group's total operating profit.

In a market which was around 1% down on the previous year, beer volumes were well up. Heineken and Stella Artois, supported by Kaltenberg Diat Pils, pushed lager sales to 47% of our total beer trade.

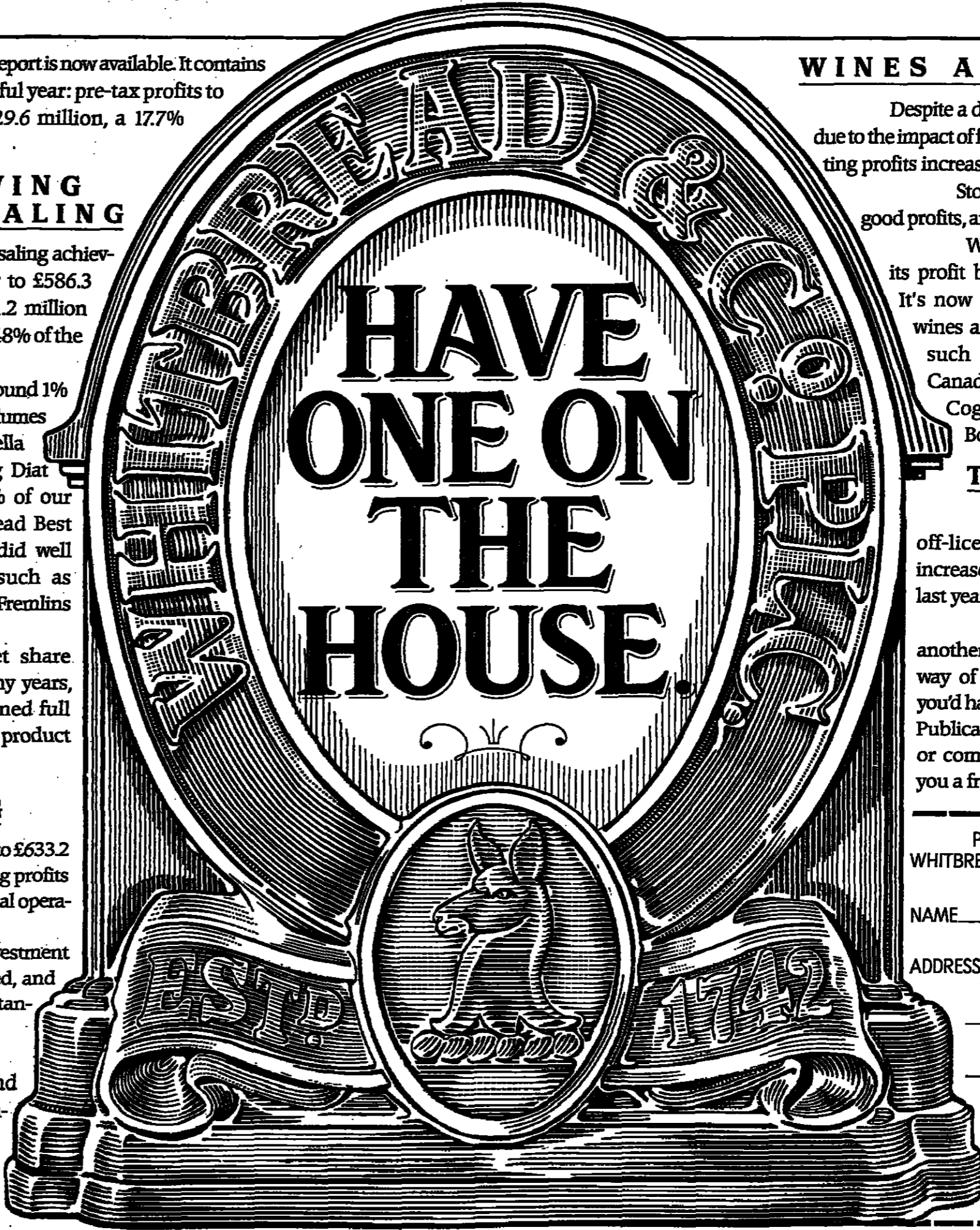
Our take-home market share reached its highest level for many years, and Breweries Division maintained full supply throughout the year, with product quality better than ever before.

RETAILING

Retailing turnover was up to £633.2 million, a 13.1% increase. Operating profits rose to £55.5 million, 33% of the total operating profit.

A high level of capital investment in Whitbread Inns was maintained, and they performed well, with a substantial growth in profit.

Beefeater, Thresher and Pizza Hut all traded strongly, and there were encouraging performances from newer businesses such as Roast Inns, Aureon Discotheques, Coaching Inns and Country Club Hotels.



WINES AND SPIRITS

Despite a decrease in turnover of 4.8% largely due to the impact of foreign exchange movements, operating profits increased by 26.2% to £33.2 million.

Stowells and Langenbach produced good profits, and Long John exports were up 10%.

Whitbread North America exceeded its profit budget and gained market share.

It's now among the top ten suppliers of wines and spirits in the U.S. with brands such as Cutty Sark, Scoresby Rare, Canadian LTD, Benedictine, Delamain Cognac, Laphroaig, Antinori and Bollinger.

THE FUTURE

In the first three months of 1986, off-licence and restaurant sales have increased, and beer volume is well up on last year.

We're confident of achieving another satisfactory annual result, and by way of celebration, we'd be delighted if you'd have one on the house: telephone our Publications Department on 01-606 4455, or complete the coupon and we'll send you a free copy of our Annual Report.

PLEASE SEND ME A COPY OF THE 1986 WHITBREAD ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS.

NAME

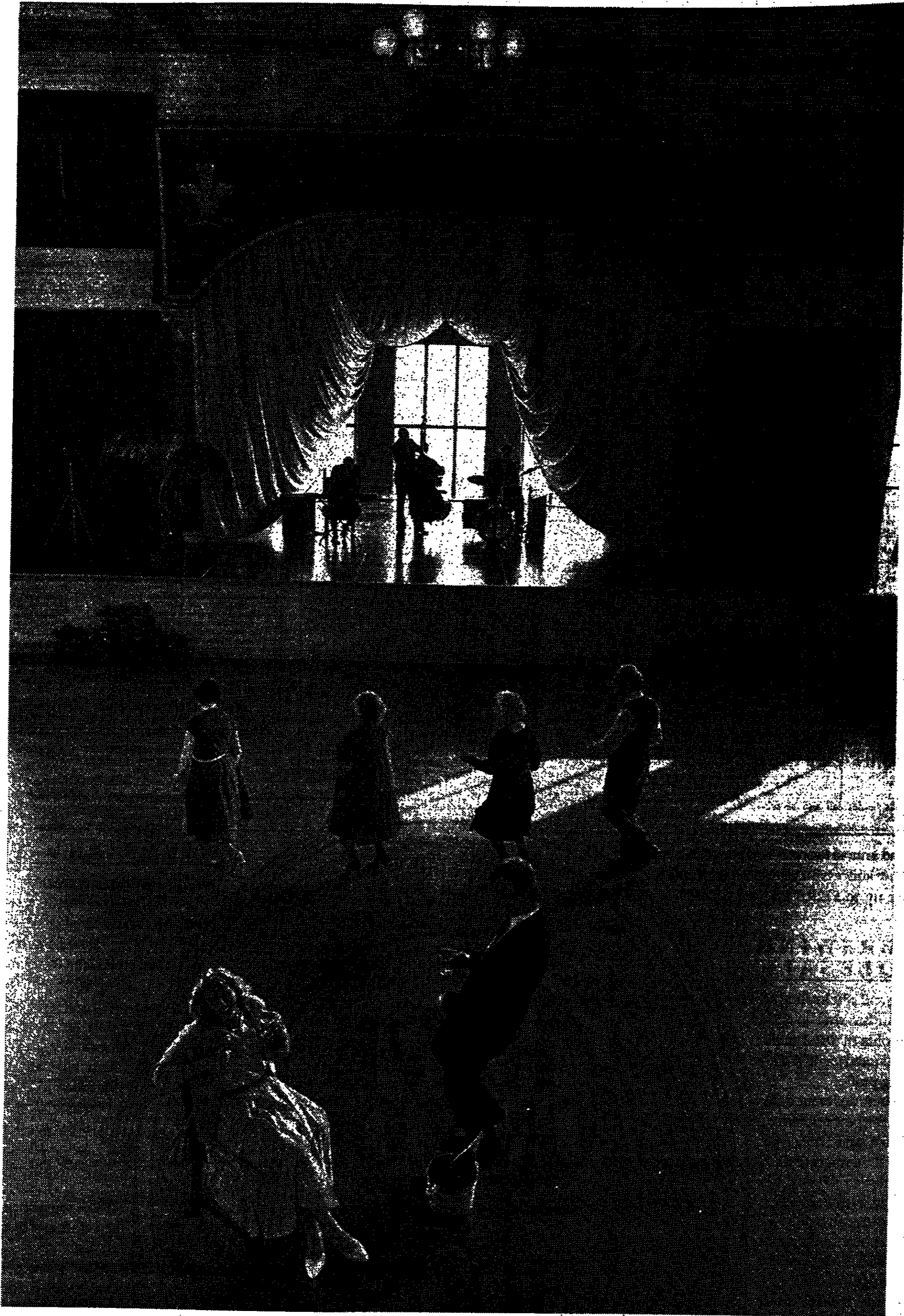
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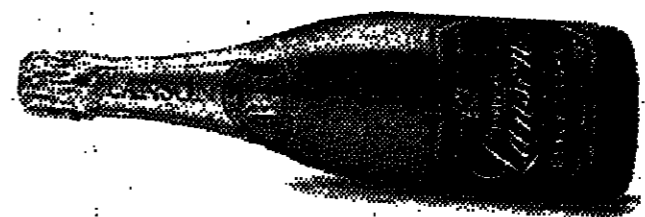
WHITBREAD

PUBLICATIONS DEPARTMENT, WHITBREAD AND COMPANY PLC, BREWERY, CHISWOLD STREET, LONDON EC1Y 4SD. TELEPHONE 01-606 4455.

THE HARVEST FOR BETH SHEKERS BY MICHAEL B. ...



Why not?



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SUMMER DRINKING/1

FOCUS

A SPECIAL REPORT

All ready for the sweet fizz of summer

Sunburnt noses, frayed tempers and overheated cars were not the only outcome of our recent, and long overdue, heatwave. As the mercury rose so did the sales of hard pressed wine trade who look forward every year to a hot summer, with wine sales to match, but are mostly rewarded with a damp squib.

Long, hot summers are good for the booze business. And anyone who pops into the corner off-licence for ice or a cold soft drink, on a sweltering day, generally comes out with a cool bottle of wine or spirits at the same time.

Quite why the British have to wait for a heatwave before they start to enjoy wine in a similar fashion as, say, the French or Italians must be as much of a mystery to wine merchants as it is to me.

But there it is. On hot summer days pubs are so busy that customers spill out onto pavements, restaurateurs squeeze tiny tables outdoors and the popping of corks is a familiar sound in the back gardens of Britain. On cold days, if those marketing men are to be believed, I suppose we must all ignore the pleasures of wine and concentrate on the joys of the kettle instead.

Keeping cool, calm and collected in hot countries has a lot to do with the moderate intake of alcohol. The latest drinks trade phenomena is the cooler, those mostly sweet sticky ersatz combinations of white wine, soda water and fruit juices in which passion fruit-mango flavours appear to predominate. Hot countries such as Australia and the US (especially in California) are already cooler crazy but so far UK cooler sales are encouraging rather than exuberant.

The best of the coolers available in the UK is still Castaway about which I first wrote last summer. This is chiefly because it is a blend of about fifty per cent of a French *vin blanc* (which gives it a higher alcohol level than other coolers of 6 per cent) mixed with ten different tropical and citrus juices. The end result is a dryish appealing mango dominated drink that makes a

pleasant summer refresher (69p from Finefare, Scotland only).

Marks and Spencer have recently introduced a range of canned coolers, convenient 25cl servings, priced at 85p per can that have obviously been aimed at the lunchtime office worker and picnic market. The cans certainly deserve a prize for presentation, for they have been beautifully illustrated, but the contents within unfortunately do not always live up to their classy packaging. The best by far is the 5.5 per cent Spritzer a dryish fresh, clean, lively lemon-zest drink.

Coolers are the latest drink fad to hit hot climates

Sweeter tooth will enjoy Orange Fizz, a blend of orange juice and white wine, that makes a palatable sweet, frothy drink as does the somewhat sweeter blackcurrant pastille-like Kir, a mix of white wine and blackcurrant crush, whatever that might be. The Marks and Spencer Lemon Fizz and Tropical coolers with their sweet synthetic jelly-baby like tastes are unlikely to convert anyone to cooler tipping.

Convenient though coolers are it is both cheaper and pleasanter to make your own summer wine cup. One of the most morish summer tipples is the Bellini, a heavenly Italian invention, that officially combines champagne and fresh peach juice. I cheat by using an inexpensive sparkler such as the fresh, lively, apply G F Cavalier Brut (Oodbins £2.59, Majestic Wine Warehouses £2.55) combined fifty-fifty or so with the purest peach juice.

Equally delectable is Strawberry Fizz made by mixing the fizz with crushed strawberries. Later on in the summer raspberries can also be subjected to the same treatment

but, make certain you rub the raspberries through a plastic sieve first, in order to remove the pips which look both unattractive and get stuck in your teeth.

All of these summery drinks can be made in large quantities for parties but if you want a simpler combination try a Moselle Punch. For every bottle of Moselle add a bottle of soda water to the punch bowl together with a measure of brandy and any orange based liqueur.

A large block of ice and slices of orange and lemon are the final addition to the punch bowl and the end result should provide ten servings with ease. If you prefer wine in all its simple, straightforward, unadulterated glory then one of the most summery white wines I know is Montana's stylish Marlborough Sauvignon Blanc. This '85 New Zealand wine made in a space-age, stainless-steel winery at Marlborough on the northern tip of the south island has all the lively fresh gooseberry-green charms of the Sauvignon grape at its very best. (Peter Dominic £3.99, Oodbins £3.99).

Champagne is perhaps everyone's idea of the perfect summery wine at home in English ice-buckets everywhere from Wimbledon to Glynedebourne et al. Vintage champagne is the luxurious summer drink par excellence, but most alas are priced at well over the £15 mark now. It is therefore something of a summer give away that Sainsbury's are currently stocking Perrier-Jouet's well-made rich, golden, biscuity 1979 vintage for just £10.25.

Sainsbury's are also selling magnums of Duval Leroy's delicious and appropriately named Fleur de Champagne non vintage Brut for £16.95 which works out at just £8.47 a bottle. This fine flowery champagne is a considerable step up from Sainsbury's own label Extra Dry Champagne (also produced by Duval Leroy) and which would look magnificent on a summer picnic or dinner table. Here comes summer!

Jane MacQuitty



Pink moves back into vogue

Wine is as susceptible to the fickleness of fashion as everything else is in life. And poor old pink wines which have not been in vogue for the past decade, are it seems only just becoming chic again.

While the big-selling, cheap sweet pink wines, as typified by the fizzy Mateus Rosé, did much to wean drinkers off beer and spirits and onto wine, they have also served to relegate rosé to the wine drinker's second eleven. A pity because there are good and great pink wines to be had. But until now, other European nations have mostly kept these underrated wines to themselves.

In recent years the wine trade has made a concerted effort to restore our faith in the pinks by seeking out well-made and unusual rosé wines from all over the world. And these diligent wine merchants, with their superior pink wines, have been rewarded with increased sales.

The most notable increase amongst these upmarket pinks has probably been that of rosé champagne whose UK sales have more than trebled in the last three years, up from 170,314 bottles in 1983 to 685,642 bottles in 1985.

Rosé wines are made by two different methods. The quickest and cheapest rosé is simply to mix red and white wine

together until the requisite shade of pink is achieved.

The more expensive maceration method is both trickier and more time consuming to execute. The red grape skins are left in contact with the fermenting juice, just long enough for the wine to be stained a delicate pink. Judging the right moment to remove the skins is not easy and rosé wines that have been made by this method do not usually have a consistent colour from vintage to vintage.

Foreigners find the English disregard for pink wines hard

a dark pinky-red hue. Avoid those rosé wines whose pink has taken on an unattractive dark amber-orange colour, for these wines are past their best and have oxidised.

Apart from the colour, the other great attribute of pink wine is their gulpable, easy-to-appreciate style. Exactly the sort of wines that are perfect for picnics and parties. Serving pink wine at any outdoor event is sensible for, while grand white or red wines tend to be rather over-awed by the great outdoors, pink wines cope remarkably well. Certainly any spicy outdoor fare such as barbecue'd dishes marry well with rosé wines, as do any garlicky or curried dishes. (Rosé wines are one of the few that can tackle the hefty flavourings of these dishes).

Most pink wines, with the exception of vintage rosé champagne, should be served cool and drunk young. They

are especially suitable as thirst quenchers on long hot summer days. One of the cheapest and most impressive rosés I have come across recently is the '84 Vins du Haut Poitou Cabernet Rosé, from that impressive Haut Poitou co-operative south of Tours, in the eastern Loire.

Priced at just £2.69 from Majestic Wine Warehouses its firm, dry, fruity flavoured style should go down well with most palates. Don't be put off incidentally by its fluorescent day-glo pink colour I find it attractive but I imagine not everyone will.

Majestic also stock another of my favourite pink wines the '85 Chateau Thieuley Rosé from Bordeaux. Made by Monsieur Courselle, an oenology professor, this rosé has a beautiful jewel-like pinky-red colour plus a delicious, rich fruity recalcitrant like taste stemming from its blend of Merlot and Cabernet Franc grapes. (Majestic Wine Warehouses, £3.95, Adnams, The Crown, High Street, Southwold, Suffolk £3.74.)

Finally my vote for the best non vintage pink champagne goes to Fliniaux Rosé whose positive fraise de bois character is as delicious as ever. (From the Champagne House, 15 Dawson Place, London W2 10J9.) JM

The answer lies on the rocks

Man is the only creature that laughs, manages a boat and drinks when he is not thirsty — so goes the ancient, cynical definition. Not to drink anything at all in company can be quite anti-social, not to say pussy footed. Now the preoccupation with health and fitness means that everyone has a reasonable excuse for not drinking alcohol. You don't have to be an ex-alcoholic, or pregnant to find plenty of drinks that are acceptable in company.

My father, who was in the refrigeration business, trained us all to ask for ice with everything. (My eldest brother has gone into the family trade

Many acceptable alternatives to try

as the captain of a Canadian icebreaker). My summer drinks include ice with pure lemon juice, Ribena and water, ice with water and a dash of Raspberry Wine vinegar (£2.63 at David Mellor), ice with Ashbourne Water straight from Dovedale, omitting the suggested recipes using sweetish fruit juice.

If you want the last word in drinks for the thirsty, try The Non-Alcoholic Cocktail Book, by David Bevan (Ebury Press, £4.95). He agrees with me about ice ("Ice makes a drink sound like a drink"). In nearly a hundred recipes he covers some fairly exotic thirstquenchers — Crystal Cup — equal quantities of cold Lapsang Suchong tea and dry ginger ale, over ice, with fresh mint leaves. He offers fruit cups, party punches, yogurt and mint leaves (with salt and pepper). There is always the stuff from the tap, even if it isn't exactly designer water. How about water from the deep dark springs of Jack the Ripper's Victorian Hackney? With ice, of course.

Philippa Toomey

Up and coming from Down Under

The Australian wine industry has overcome major hurdles at home and abroad to gain recognition as a serious producer of quality wine. Although it has a history of nearly 200 years, it is only now starting to come of age.

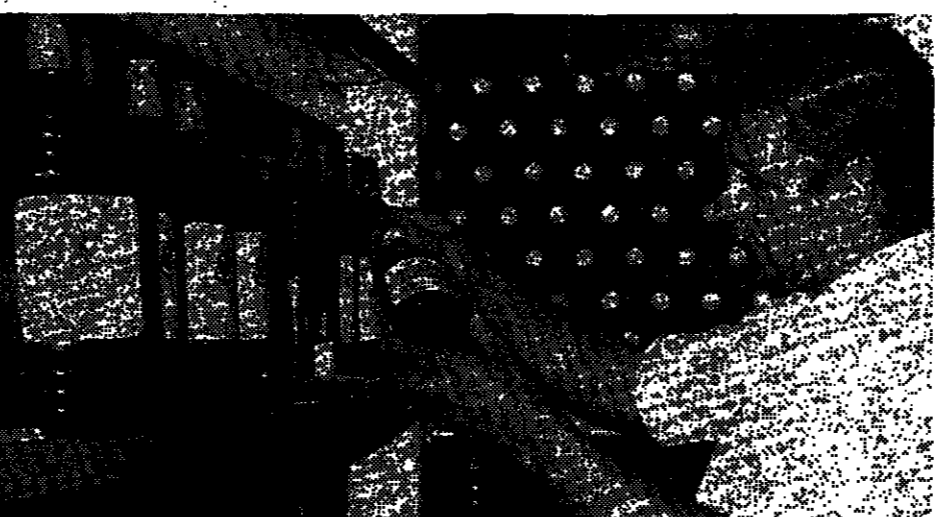
In the late 1940s and 1950s the biggest problem facing Australia was that few people believed the country could produce anything other than indifferent fortified wines. Having overcome that problem, the wine industry was then saddled with a naming problem — and the belief that Australian-produced wine had to correspond to a French wine type, hence Australian claret or Australian burgundy.

Now Australian wine is being produced and sold on its own merits by grape type, and the era of the varietal wine has arrived. Most good-quality Australian wines now have

labels that carry a wealth of information, including grape type, alcohol by volume, *beaux-més* at harvest as well as a brief description of the type of wine and with what food it would be most suitable.

Since January this year Australia has had one *appellation contrôlée* system backed by legislation. As it is based in Tasmania, which produces some fine wine but in extremely limited quantity, the system is of little value nationwide at this stage.

Under the Tasmanian scheme, called *appellation of origin*, winegrowers will register with the licensing board full details of their operations before vintage. This will be followed by audits by the board and the Department of Agriculture during and after the vintage. Producers can apply for *appellation* for particular types of wine.



A growing reputation: The Saltram winery, Angaston, in South Australia

In New South Wales a consortium of six winemakers has introduced the Hunter Valley accreditation scheme. The Margaret River region of Western Australia has a similar voluntary scheme, as has the Mudgee region of New South Wales.

The prime aim of the Hunter scheme is quality rather than district of origin and as such has been criticized as just a marketing tool rather than a serious attempt at some form of *appellation* control. Under the scheme there are two gradings of quality: Hunter Valley classic quality wine and Hunter Valley benchmark quality wine.

In Victoria there are plans to bring in an authentication system which would require grape growers and wine producers to furnish details of yields, varieties, region or regions of production and the number of bottles produced or to be produced. The idea being that control would be kept over "shandying" of varietal wines.

Though Australians have a great reputation as beer drinkers, wine has made spectacular strides in the past decade. Today Australians consume 21.4 litres of wine a head each year.

To put that figure in context, in 1974-75 Australians drank 187 bottles of beer per head of population and 16 bottles of wine. Both of these figures were a record. Today the beer consumption has dropped to 160 bottles per head while the consumption of wine has risen to 30 bottles.

Naturally the beer industry is worried and after much lobbying, managed to persuade the federal government to impose a sales tax on wine in the 1984 budget. Before that, wine had been free of tax

and cheap. It still is relatively cheap despite the tax.

It is unlikely that any country in the world has as good quality *vin ordinaire* as Australia. For *vin ordinaire* read casks or wine in a box. With most casks of four litres (six bottles) selling in supermarkets for \$A5 to \$A6 (£2.50 to £3), there are few countries which could match the price either.

The wine cask, Australia's gift to the imbibers of the world, has played a vital part in the enormous rise in popularity and consumption of wine. The versatility of the cask which allows you to consume a glass at a time, has made wine drinking an everyday event in many homes.

Introduced to the market seriously in 1971, the casks have become the great leveler. They are equally at home at a Sunday lunchtime barbecue or an intimate dinner party. More than 65 per cent

of all wine consumed in Australia is in casks.

The Australian wine industry is developing in two distinct parts. At one end are the cask and cheaper bottled varieties, usually marketed nationally, rather like soft drinks, and the recently introduced coolers, a mixture of white wine and citrus juice. At the other end prices are on a par with good *château* wine in Britain. Increasingly the middle range is confused and highly competitive.

The division has also led to the rise of the so-called "boutique" winery, a small, often owner-operated, winery producing excellent wines often using some of the little-known grape varieties and charging high prices.

The boutique wineries have grown up around such areas as the Yarra Valley outside Melbourne.

Tony Dubondin



Wine storage at Lyndoch in the Barossa Valley

No frontiers for the great whites

Two great white grape varieties contend to provide the classic white wines to accompany summer food. Their rivalry originates in their native France, but their international popularity has now pitted them in combat in almost every country in which they can be successfully ripened.

Different grape varieties, just like different varieties of any other fruit, have particular characteristics of their own. But it is a rash "expert" who claims to be able to distinguish infallibly with which grapes any particular wine has been made.

The wines can vary subtly or dramatically depending on the climate, the soil in which the grapes are grown, and of course the method by which the wine is made. That said Chardonnay, the grape of the great white burgundies, and Sauvignon Blanc, the source of the Loire Valley's Sancerre and Pouilly Fume, offer a contrast in wine styles that even the untutored palate will quickly appreciate.

To generalize dangerously then, Sauvignon is for those who want crisp, dry, refreshing wine, pointedly aggressive and direct. In a short life it cuts incomparable dash. Chardonnay, by contrast, is gentle, plump, rich and rounded, endowed with the ability to grow old gracefully and with increasing opulence.

All over the world Chardonnay is synonymous with quality in white wine. The grape thrives in places as far-flung as New Zealand and Australia, Bulgaria and New York State as well as in Burgundy and California. It is grown in almost every wine producing country in the world — and if it does not emerge in recognizable form in the wine glass, it is not the grape's fault but the winemaker's.

Classic Chardonnay from the villages like Meursault and Puligny-Montrachet in the Cote de Beaune are now almost unapproachably expensive, but Lay & Wheeler, 6 Culver Street West, Colchester, Essex, have an unrivalled selection from great growers. 1983 is the formidable vintage to have bought for future consumption. 1981 is for further keeping, but the 1982s are good and just about ready.

For economy's sake, though, it is worth searching the Maconnaise. Thevenet's Domaine de la Bon Gran (Adnams, The Crown,

Southwold, Suffolk) is a good wine at comparatively little price (£4.60), and St. Veran is an appellation on which the Young household's enjoyment of white burgundy has come heavily to depend. The 1984 from the Cave Cooperative de Frisse (Corney & Barrow, 12, Helmet Row, EC1) is excellent (£5.18).

Continued on page 30

THE BRITISH SUMMER.

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JULY WINE OF THE MONTH

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Some like it cold when it's hot

Drinking wine in hot weather is more sensible than it sounds. Wine waiters and wine snobs may sneer as you call for an ice-bucket for the *vin rouge*, but it is they and not you who will be missing out on a splendid summer treat.

Not all red wines take happily to the cool cabinet treatment. Most New World reds are too big and beefy for the ice-bucket as are most tannic, full-bodied European reds made from the Syrah or Cabernet Sauvignon grape. And obviously it would be a waste to treat first growth claret or *grand cru* burgundy in this fashion.

Apart from these exceptions the majority of the world's light, fruity reds are in warm weather just as delicious served *fruits* as they are *chambres*. Warm red wine makes a thoroughly unpleasant mawkish mouthful.

The most notable cool summer red is Beaujolais whose Gamay grape is even more *gouleyant*, or gulpable, when presented at this temperature in summer than it is in November. The best summer Beaujolais thirst-quenchers on sale now are those from the 1985 vintage whose combination of vibrant, youthful fruit and refreshing acidity, when chilled, should take the heat out of many a sweltering summer afternoon.

Haynes, Hanson & Clark (17 Lettice Street, London SW6) have a superb example in their pretty carmine-coloured, classic tutti-frutti tasting 85 Beaujolais Villages, Domaine des Niveaudières from Vins Dessales for £3.87. Another good Beaujolais buy is the fresh, fruity Beaujolais Villages, Chateau des Loges from The Market and Le Provençal priced at £3.85 a bottle.

Apart from being light and fruity in style the best summer reds are those that also have high acidity which, when chilled, will appear more refreshing to the palate than those without. Any northern French red should provide a

successful choice especially those redcurrant-like Cabernet Franc dominated wines from the Loire.

Now that Chinon and Bourgueil have become so expensive turning to the lesser-known Loire reds such as those of Saumur is a good idea. (Yapp Brothers, Mers, Wiltshire £3.60.)

Judging the exact temperature to serve your summer red is not difficult. As a general rule the more expensive the wine the less time it should spend in the ice-bucket. Top-notch Beaujolais and other fine summer reds should therefore be served at 55°F, while slightly less distinguished summer reds are happy at the 50°F level.

A 10-minute dip in the ice-bucket or about twice that in the refrigerator door should

achieve about 50°F. If it is a very hot day, or your selected summer red is of humble provenance, then by all means chill the bottle down to 45°F.

Avoid the ice-lolly level because at this temperature it becomes impossible to taste the wine. This degree of coolness has, however, helped many a pernickery holiday palate to down the local red hooch. Another useful warm weather tip, to cheer up a low quality holiday red, is to drown the high alcohol and hefty tannic taste with lots of soda water and ice cubes.

A shot of *crème de cassis*, blackcurrant liqueur, or *crème de framboise*, raspberry liqueur, mixed with red wine and ice is another useful holiday cooler.

The light, plummy Pinot

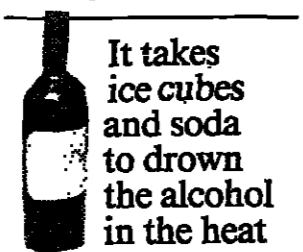
Noir grape also responds well to chilling—but save your fine bottles of red burgundy for colder days. Instead, try a good value for money Yugoslav Pinot Noir from Teltcher Brothers, who are best known for their ubiquitous Lutomer Riesling. Eastern Europe Pinot Noirs are generally disappointing but this pale garnet-red wine had a lovely, soft, fruity damson-like smell and taste that priced at just £2.15 from Peter Dominic is practically given away.

The most stylish summer red to serve this year though is Kindlian 1986 from the Clare Valley in South Australia and the first red wine of the year to arrive in the UK. Australia's answer to Beaujolais Nouveau is made from the Shiraz and Merlot grapes, by a variation of Beaujolais *maceration carbonique* method.

This captures the freshness and fruit of these red grapes without the alcohol and hefty tannins. The result is an impressive velvety, fruity mouthful with all sorts of intriguing flavours on the bouquet and palate that range from violets to cherries.

Fuller and fruitier than Beaujolais Nouveau and priced at just £2.99 a bottle (from Peter Dominic and Bottoms Up) Kindlian 86 is my idea of the perfect summer red.

It takes ice cubes and soda to down the alcohol in the heat



Jane McQuitty



Anyone for sherry?

It is easy, given the seasonal demand for alcoholic drinks especially in the hectic weeks before Christmas, to overlook the fact that folk drink a lot in summer too.

The Ministry of Transport caught up with reality this year when it noticed that road accidents associated with drinking were not merely a yule-tide phenomenon, but tied to summer drives to country pubs as well.

There is a growing health and safety-conscious tendency to lower the alcoholic strength of drinks for everyone, and not just the driver—for whom a selection of unconvincing but palatable non-alcoholic wines and beers is available.

In the rush to light table wines and mixed long drinks, some old favourites have been cruelly and undeservedly thrust aside. This means that there are some treats in store for those who care to turn their attention in unfashionable directions.

Sherry is paying the price for years of mistreatment at British bars. The complacent notion that middle-class folk would always drift up with the old catch phrase, "just a sherry please", left the trade ill-prepared for the buffets of sharp recession and the capture of large parts of the industry by financial interests which proved finally to be unsoundly based.

Customers used to drinking over-aged sherry at over-warm temperatures from under-sized glasses proved false friends when the wine drinking boom got under way.

The industry has now taken itself in hand and new quality controls have eliminated most of the cheap, unpleasant wines that were overloading the market and damaging the name until last year.

In the popular market the signal success story is

Harvey's Tico, a sherry specifically designed as a mixer drink and aimed at young people interested in lighter, longer draughts. Taken with ice and lemon, soda or tonic, it works well. But it reminds most people of an unusual vermouth rather than sherry.

The other encouraging thing is that more people are now showing an interest in sherry of real quality and individual interest. Hence an increasing number of *de luxe* sherries and the interest in "almacenistas" sherries, unblended mature wines specially chosen by individual stockholders.

Another phenomenon is the rash of Palo Cortado wines offered by wine merchants and even supermarkets. Though in some cases one suspects that the style has been achieved by simple blending rather than the capricious whims of nature that the makers suggest makes this style a rarity.

There is, too, a growing awareness of how to treat the drink fairly for its proper appreciation. Finos and manzanillas especially (which have been protected from the air by a layer of flor yeast until they are bottled) depend for their bright bite and tangy appeal on freshness.

Harvey's most recent launch, a range of premium quality sherries under the name 1796 (not a vintage, of course, but the year the company was founded) are bottled in Jerez partly for the sake of extra freshness. The intensely astringent manzanilla, supplied by Barbadiño, shows something of the benefit, while the fino is unusually fruity.

As a recent Harvey's tasting showed, sweet sherries can develop and mature in fascinating ways in bottle. Some specially bottled Bristol Creams emerge as quite exqui-

site nutty sensations, but dry sherries need to be drunk as quickly as white wine if they are not to be dulled by oxidation.

Served chilled and kept in the fridge after opening, sherries sweet or dry make an appetizing and relaxing summer drink.

Port too is in need of a revival. Ruby port and lemon (the first drink I ever enjoyed) is now decades out of date, though chuck in some ice and you could revive the love affair at once.

Dry white port, well chilled or on the rocks with a twist of lemon peel, is an appreciable aperitif, more favoured oddly in warmer climes than our own; while port shippers in their hot vineyards happily take refreshment from thirst-quenching port and soda. Tawny port with ice and a twist of orange is another variation.

White spirits such as gin, vodka and rum need no advocate since they will surely continue to find their way into all sorts of exotic creations in which they provide the hidden kick. But it is, of course, a popular misconception that colour is somehow indicative of strength and warmth.

One recipe for using up some of Scotland's whisky surplus advocates a mix of three parts whisky with two cream de cassis, one coconut cream, and two each of pineapple and grapefruit juices, all blended and decorated with a kiwi slice and a strawberry.

This prize-winning formula is dedicated to the royal wedding summer, but personally, come rain or shine I shall continue to take my whisky (single malt preferably and Springbank or The Macallan at best) with rather less sophistication.

Robin Young

A taste for the right mix by the younger set

At last the great table wine boom seems to have popped its cork. Five years of spectacular growth, which increased our consumption by three quarters, are apparently to be followed by a breather.

This year the trade expects no more than a 5 per cent increase in wine sales, which have been damaged by successive wine scandals in Austria and Italy. Greater hopes are now pinned on novelties such as wine coolers, ready-mixes, mixer drinks and newly introduced brands.

If the sun shines for the marketing men there is no doubt that coolers will be the vogue drink this summer. Already, with no super summers to sell to, they have made one-fifth of the adult population at least aware that their product range exists. About one in 25 has tried at least one of the burgeoning number of brands with names like Castaway, Mardi Gras, Splitz, Sun Country Refresher and St. Lager.

Coolers are low-alcohol blends of white wine with fruit juices and other soft drinks. None has more than 6.5 per cent alcohol by volume, so they have an appeal to the active and the health-conscious who are looking for a thirst quencher. Their appeal is principally to the young,

wine in which the flavour remains true.

No doubt the sound of a cork easing gently from the bottle-neck has peculiarly pleasant associations that are denied to a ring-pull can. But then not every vinous indulgence is going to take place in a context of polished wood, white linen and soft candlelight reflected in the sparkling silver and crystal.

For a summer picnic or barbecue the can offers the considerable advantages of being light to carry, easy to pack, unbreakable and quick and easy to chill. Certainly, with limited shelf-life, they will never carry fine wine but for *al fresco* and occasional drinking they are fine. Current estimates are that total sales are likely to reach 36 million cans by 1990.

Indeed Marks and Spencer are sufficiently attracted by the packaging to be using it for their newly launched spirit-based ready-mixes also, as well as a couple of regular wines. That M & S find room for own-brand whisky and American dry, rum and cola, and gin and tonic now in 100 stores is a strong indication of the public interest in ready mixed drinks in convenient packaging. The range sell at £1.09 for 25 centilitres.

Similarly James Burroughs claim to have been doing "excellently" with their range of "mixed doubles" in glass pots with ring pull seals. The recent addition of vodka and tonic (for the sophisticates of the south and Midlands) and vodka and lemonade (for sweet-toothed northerners) and a rum and cola compilation (aimed at the young) has redoubled the range since last summer.

For those who like mixed drinks at full-strength and who have habitually felt able to mix their own, the world has become slightly more complicated. The major vermouth houses of Martell and Cirozano have decided in face of cut-price competition from lower strength Riccadonna and Gancia, to reduce their brands' alcoholic strength and take the advantage of a lower rate of excise duty.

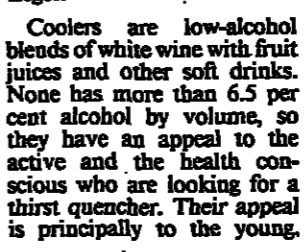
One new competitor in the well-subscribed sector of vermouths, aperitifs and increasingly exotic speciality drinks is Monterez. This is a zingy blend of Spanish white wine, brandy and tangy orange, chosen in trials against 36 rival formulations and aimed primarily at young women for whom it is claimed to have "high taste appeal".

Other newcomers since last year include a brisk peppermint schnaaps with specially reduced alcohol content called Minnu, marketed as a "young, outdoor exciting drink" with the slogan "a breath of fresh air". The idea is to associate it with activities such as windsurfing, and the risk, supposedly, that it might remind some people irresistibly of the minty toothpastes marketed on similar assumptions.

"If people find it mixes well with milk," says the general manager of the firm which worked on the product for two years before its launch, "who are we to argue? Trust me, though, it only makes milk taste weird".

Casino Royale blends vodka, passion fruit, guava and blackcurrant, in a bid for the attention of "young, female consumers across the social spectrum" who are of the generation weaned on Ribena. If it does not sound sufficiently mixed-up already, the makers claim it has tremendous mixability, and mixing it is all the rage in the current search for further sales.

Wine from cans and casks are a fairly new idea for most



In Britain it is certainly significant that Marks & Spencer, with limited shelf-space for a wine selection compared to most supermarket chains, are reveling in the success of their new five-strong cooler range. The St. Michael Spritzer is a mix of white wine with lemonade; Tropical blends orange, apricot and pineapple for a fruity taste; and Orange Fizz is a mild and sweetish approximation in the direction of Buck's Fizz.

The one variety that lags in sales, interestingly, is the one that sounds (but does not taste) closest to a wine lovers' traditional mix—the Kir. In this case blackcurrant juice (and not liqueur) with white wine. With no summer sun to speak of, yet the other coolers have been marching off the shelves in their 25 centilitre (two-glass) cans priced at 55p.

The idea of wine (or coolers) from cans is fairly new to most people, and viewed with scepticism by many. In fact it works well, and over the past year Grants of St. James's, for example have trebled the sales of hock and Lambrusco in cans, which they now rate one of the most successful convenience packs launched in the last five years.

The aluminium cans, processed through tungsten-carbide rings, treated with an impervious lacquer and electronically tested to ensure the liquid makes no contact with the metal itself, do deliver

and in particular young women, and many who try coolers have not been regular wine drinkers before.

In the United States, where cooler sales have been increasing more than 200 per cent every six months, there have even been attempts to market champagne coolers with flavours such as Kir Royale and Mimosa. But cooler buyers are not primarily the affluent yuppies and premium priced blends have been difficult to move.

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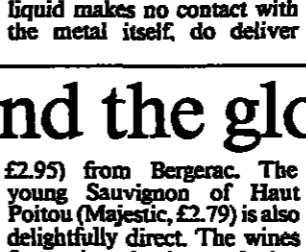
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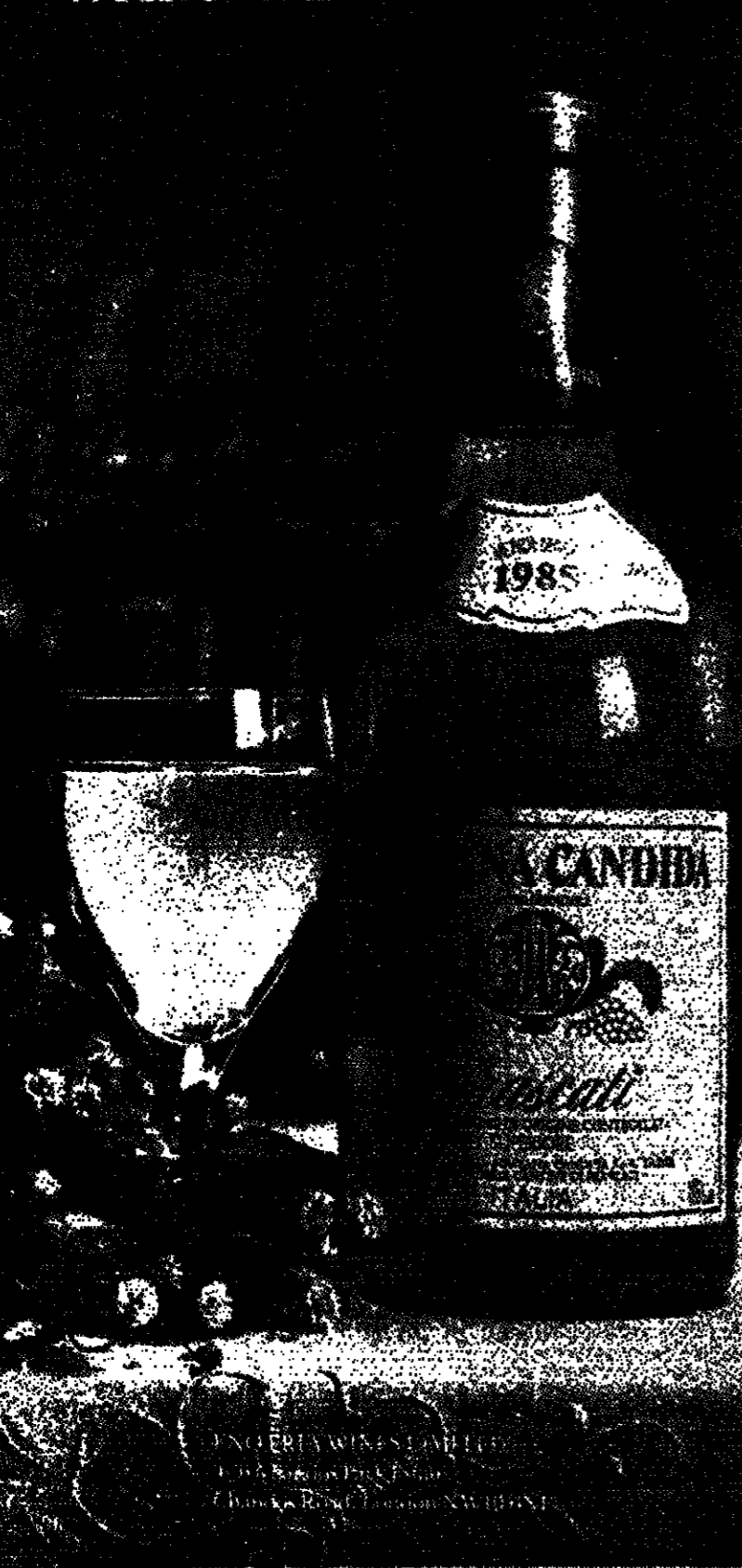
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Vineyard break: Enjoying the grape in Vendanges, France

Great whites from around the globe

Continued from page 29

From Chablis it is hard, this summer, to find better value than that of Marks & Spencer (£5.50). Their blanc de blancs premier cru champagne (£2.99), of course, presents Chardonnay in appropriately sparkling form.

In blind tasting comparisons, though, the honours often go these days to New World wines. Chardonnay is a cult in both California and Australia, whence some of the most richly full-flavoured examples come. Simi (Corney & Barrow) and Robert Mondavi and Edna Valley Vineyard (Les Amis du Vin and Cullens, 19 Charlotte Street, W1) are top stars from California. But less expensively you may snatch up the same style in Hawk Crest 1984, the second wine of the Stag's Leap vineyard (Windrush Wines, The Barracks, Cecily Hill, Cirencester, Glouce, £4.95). As an introduction to Californian capabilities Sainsbury's Californian Pinot Chardonnay (£3.45) is an excellent advertisement.

From Australia Rosemount Estate's Show Reserve 1985 is good value from Sainsbury's. Waitrose, Bottoms Up and

elsewhere at prices from £6.75, and Seppelt Reserve Bin Chardonnay 1984 from Eldridge Pope, Weymouth Avenue, Dorchester is a blimpy welcoming wine at £4.76.

In a lighter, well-flavoured style New Zealand produces Montana Marlborough Chardonnay 1984, cheerful and honeyed (Oddbins £3.99), and Bulgaria the light clean and lemony Novi Pazar at £3.60 a dozen from Wines of Westhorpe, 54 Boyl Hill Road, Maidenhead, while from South Tirol both Lageder (Oddbins) and Tiefenbrunner (H. Allen Smith, 24-25 Scala Street, W1) produce characterful, charming wines, the latter rather flowery and aromatic, and the former delightfully straightforward.

The more you pay for Chardonnay the finer the fish that should accompany it. Sole, turbot and salmon welcome the rich flavour of the wine, and it simply levitates lobster. Chardonnay should not be served as deeply chilled as most white wines, and a simple rule of thumb to determine what foods to serve it with is that the key description applied by Californians to

its taste is "buttery richness".

Sauvignon, by contrast, is the pungent, thrustful stuff with which get the taste buds working at the start of summer meals. High in acidity and often distinctly sharp, you may not be able to stomach it right through the meal! The indication for Sauvignon is food on which you might want to squeeze a lemon—fish and chips, smoked fish and shellfish obviously, but also stuffed mushrooms, veal stew, fatty steak or chicken. It also goes admirably with oily fish (herring, mackerel) and goat's milk cheese.

For a snappy exemplar in the fresh and fruitiest style try the 1985 Chateau Thieuley Cepage Sauvignon (Adnams, £4.03) from Bordeaux, or Chateau la Jaurerie Blanc Sec (Majestic Wine Warehouses, £2.95) from Bergerac. The young Sauvignon of Haut Poitou (Majestic, £2.79) is also delightfully direct. The wines from the classic producing region of the Loire take a little longer to mature, and 1984 was not too happy a year. The best at reasonable price in the High Street is possibly Sancerre Clos du Cheue Marchand, at £5.55 from Peter Dominic.

But again there are international contenders appealing for attention. Rosemount Estate's blackcurranty 1985 Sauvignon Blanc at Sainsbury's and Oddbins (£4.99) makes an interesting comparison with their Chardonnay (and shows there is still some possibility of confusing the two). Mondavi's oaky Fume Blanc (California for Sauvignon) rubs the lesson in further. Montana from New

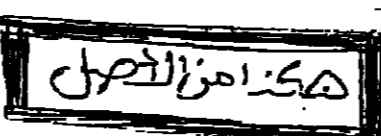
Zealand also offer a direct comparison. Their Sauvignon (Oddbins, £3.99) smells, interestingly, of canned asparagus. And from Chile Santa Digna Sauvignon Blanc 1985 (Arthur Rackham, 5 High Road, Byfleet, Surrey) offers a fresh acidity and delicate fruit flavour typical of the achievements of the famous Spanish winemaker, Miguel Torres.

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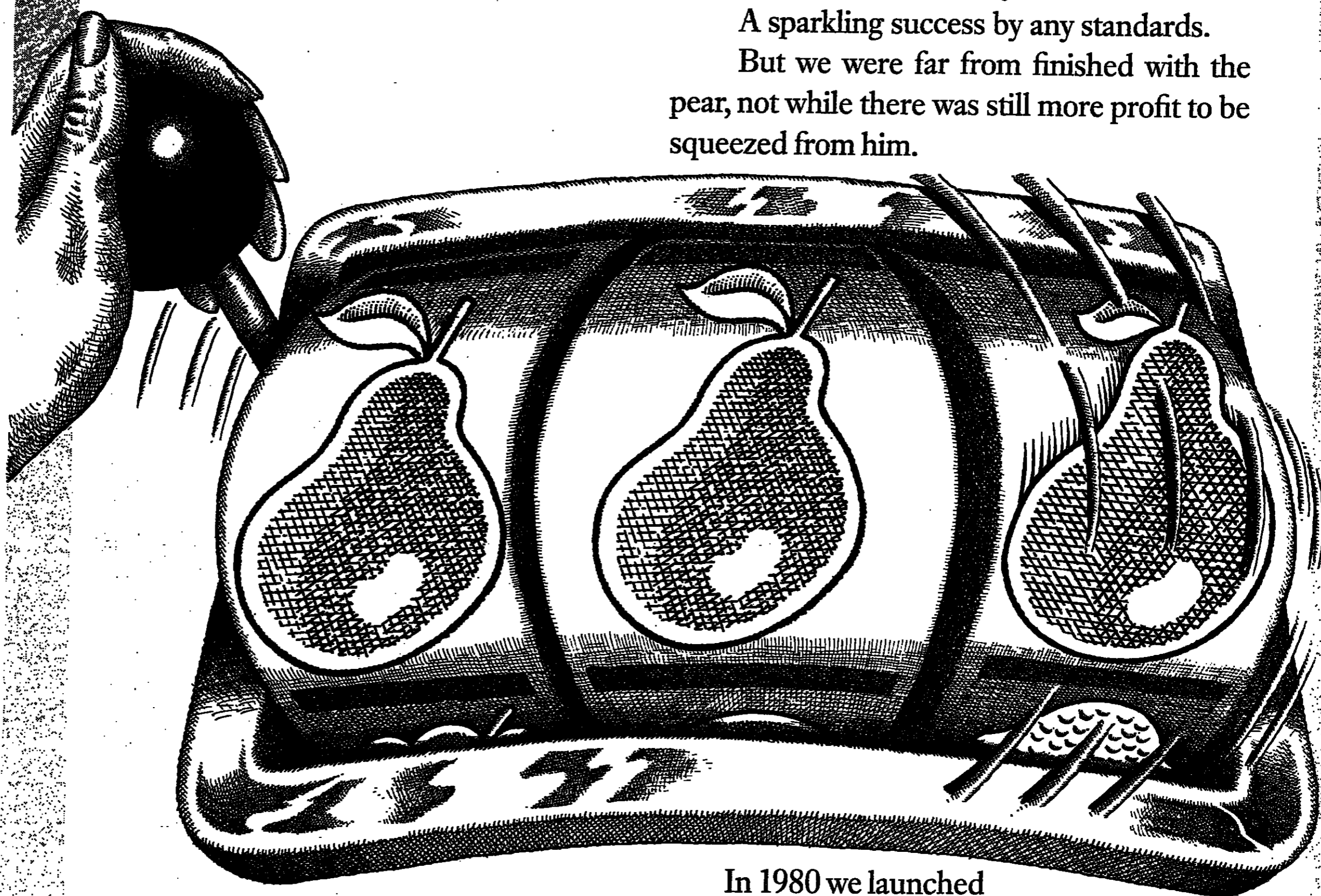
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Community loss is factor in deportation appeal

Regina v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte Bakhtiar Singh

Before Lord Bridge of Harwich, Lord Brightman, Lord Mackay of Clashfern and Lord Goff of Chieveley [Speeches read June 26]

The first was that paragraph 154 of the Act was a deportation order made under section 3(5)(a) of the Immigration Act 1971. An adjudicator was wrong to disregard the loss to the Sikh community of the services of a priest and musician with a rare talent which would result from the deportation.

The House of Lords so held in allowing an appeal by the appellant against a deportation order made under section 3(5)(a) of the Immigration Act 1971. An adjudicator was wrong to disregard the loss to the Sikh community of the services of a priest and musician with a rare talent which would result from the deportation.

The House of Lords so held in allowing an appeal by the appellant against a deportation order made under section 3(5)(a) of the Immigration Act 1971. An adjudicator was wrong to disregard the loss to the Sikh community of the services of a priest and musician with a rare talent which would result from the deportation.

LORD BRIDGE said that the appellant's attack on the adjudicator's decision was directed at certain paragraphs in which, inter alia, he directed himself that he must disregard the loss to the Sikh community of the services of a priest and musician with a rare talent, which would result from the appellant's deportation.

The adjudicator thought himself bound by *R v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte Darshan Singh Sohal* [1981] Imm AR 20 to hold that that was a matter relevant for consideration only by the Secretary of State, not by the appellate authorities. Mr Laws sought to uphold that as the correct direction in law.

The real question was whether the first sentence of paragraph 154 of the *Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules* (1982 (H.C. 66)) considering whether deportation is the right course on the merits, the public interest will be balanced against any compassionate circumstances of the case.

It followed that to construe the rules in the sense contended for by the adjudicator would not only conflict with the general law but would also be ineffective to restrict the relevant matters which the appellate authorities must take into consideration.

Accordingly, the adjudicator misdirected himself in law. Having expressed that conclusion, it was appropriate to sound a note of caution. The only matters which were not or indeed permitted, to be taken into consideration either by the Secretary of State or the appellate authorities in deciding whether to make a deportation order are matters relevant to the proper exercise of the statutory discretion.

But to attempt to draw in the abstract precise boundaries which separated the relevant from the irrelevant would be an unworkable and dangerous exercise.

It was unnecessary to examine the judgment in *Darshan Singh Sohal*. It mattered not whether it was right or wrong on its facts.

In the present case there was nothing "political" in a sense which would take them outside the ambit of relevance to the proper exercise of the adjudicator's discretion, in the factors which he held himself bound to disregard. On the adjudicator's findings, the present was a simple case of a man of outstanding talent and dedication rendering services of outstanding value to a particular section of the community of which they would be deprived if he were deported.

Lord Brandon, Lord Brightman, Lord Mackay and Lord Goff agreed.

Solicitors: Karim Laxman; Treasury Solicitor.

Mr Christopher Critchlow for the appellant, Mr Hugh Allardye for the respondent. Mr Justice Otton said that the defendant was seen by a witness repeatedly beating the hedgehog in a road with a stick. The witness found the hedgehog the following morning in the road still alive and she took it to a veterinary surgeon. He found that the animal was in a state of shock and collapse, was very sick and unable to move, and it soon died despite receiving treatment.

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RACING: WEST ILSLEY COLT MISSES TOMORROW'S CLASSIC AT THE CURRAGH

Lochtillum to give encore in Newcastle highlight

When the Chilton trainer Jamie Douglas-Home, son of the playwright William and nephew of Lord Home, our former Prime Minister, comes to reflect upon his career on the turf he will always have a soft spot for Lochtillum, the sprinter that he owns and trains.

With eight victories to his credit during the past five seasons, he was the best trained professional refers to as a grand old servant.

Last year, at the age of six, Lochtillum did Douglas-Home a particular good turn by winning the Portland Handicap at Doncaster, in addition to the Gosforth Park Cup, which is again the feature race on tonight's programme at Newcastle.

By winning at Bath 25 days ago he proved that another year has not blunted his speed. I believe that he has a good chance of repeating that victory of a year ago on a course where he has won three times in all.

Lochtillum is a horse who takes a bit of knowing. That perhaps explains why Willie Ryan, who had never ridden him before, found life a bit difficult at Sandown last time out when he finished only 11th behind Axe Valley. But he was not beaten all that far.

This time the more experienced trainer, John Cochrane, who knows him so well having won the Portland on him, and back in the saddle, and he should take some stopping at the end of what is bound to be a very fast-run sprint with

Dublin Lad, Clantime and Music Machine in the field. Interestingly, Lochtillum has precisely the same weight that he carried to victory a year ago, but a vastly different draw. On that occasion he was drawn 17 next to the stands rails. This time he has been drawn lowest of all.

Nevertheless, Cochrane should still be able to switch him off, draw him in behind early on, and from there keep him covered up until the last possible moment, the way he did at Doncaster last September and more recently at Bath.

Simla Ridge, carrying only 7st 11lb, will be hard to beat if he runs as well as he did in the Cork and Orrery Stakes at Royal Ascot eight days ago. But in this instance the old advice to never trust the form of a conditions race when assessing a handicap could be well worth bearing in mind, just as it was before Hader contested the Royal Hunt Cup.

Steve Cauthen, who was on Lochtillum this day 12 months ago will now be at Newcastle tonight to ride Star Cutter (8.15) and Undershaft (8.45) for Henry Cecil. Both should oblige, but at cramped odds.

At Lingfield, Pat Eddery's possible moment, the way he did at Doncaster last September and more recently at Bath. Simla Ridge, carrying only 7st 11lb, will be hard to beat if he runs as well as he did in the Cork and Orrery Stakes at Royal Ascot eight days ago.

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LINGFIELD PARK

- 2.0 ENGLISH ALE MAIDEN FILLES STAKES (3-y-o: £1,043; 1m 4f) (16 runners)
1 APPLI (K Abdulla) J 9-11
2 APRIL (K Abdulla) J 9-11
3 ARISHAH (K Abdulla) J 9-11
4 BEMAROSA (Rohde) L 9-11
5 CRYSTAL MOSS (K Abdulla) J 9-11
6 ELVINE (USA) (M P Mervin) S 9-11
7 EXCELSIOR (USA) (K Abdulla) J 9-11
8 FANTASY (K Abdulla) J 9-11
9 LA GRANDE DAME (J Gower) G 9-11
10 MYTH (K Abdulla) J 9-11
11 NUTCRACKER (A Perry) G 9-11
12 PRELUDE (K Abdulla) J 9-11
13 QUEEN (K Abdulla) J 9-11
14 RICHARDS FOLLY (A Williams) P 9-11
15 SUGAR PAIN (K Abdulla) J 9-11
16 CRYSTAL MOSS (K Abdulla) J 9-11

Lingfield selections

- 2.0 Prelude. 2.30 Sugar Pain. 3.0 Dream Launch. 3.30 Parklands Belle. 4.0 Deputy Head. 4.30 James de Coombe. 5.0 Ebbolito.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.0 Appria. 2.30 Security Clearance. 3.0 Dream Launch. 4.0 Bertie Wooster. 4.30 Torrey.
Michael Seely's selection: 5.0 Ebbolito.

2.30 GRANTS WHISKY HANDICAP (£1,906; 2m) (13)

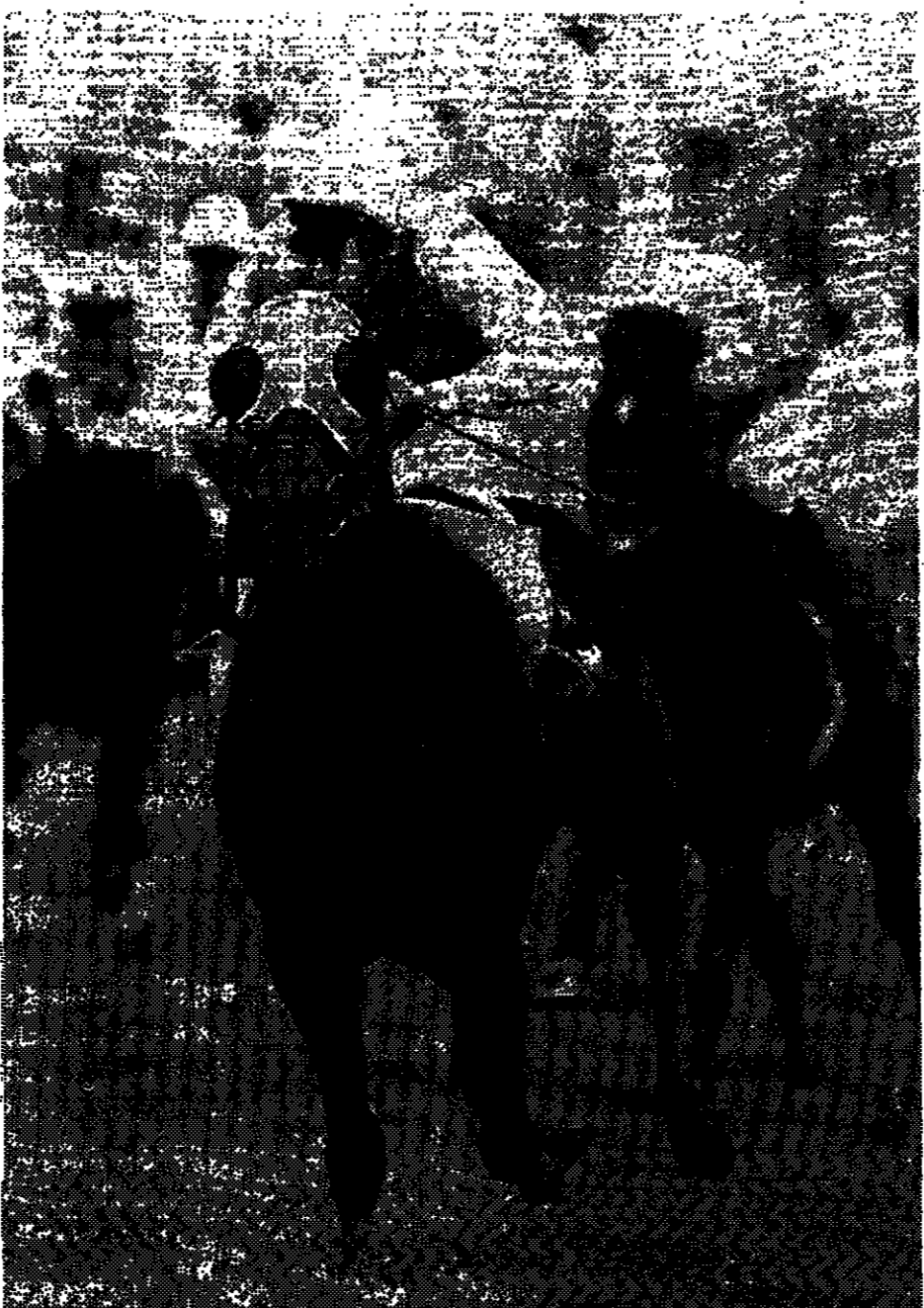
- 1 000000 SECURITY CLEARANCE (K Abdulla) G 9-11
2 000000 LINDSAY (K Abdulla) G 9-11
3 000000 HOOVER (K Abdulla) G 9-11
4 000000 HARLESTONE LAKE (J Duggan) J 9-11
5 000000 RICHARD (K Abdulla) G 9-11
6 000000 BULL DOG (K Abdulla) G 9-11
7 000000 STAR THERMIST (K Abdulla) G 9-11
8 000000 CAPTAIN WHESTER (K Abdulla) G 9-11
9 000000 TRAFFIC (K Abdulla) G 9-11
10 000000 GIMPY (K Abdulla) G 9-11
11 000000 HOT BETTY (K Abdulla) G 9-11
12 000000 POLICEOFF (K Abdulla) G 9-11
13 000000 SUGAR PAIN (K Abdulla) G 9-11

Salisbury results

- 2.15 (1m) 1. ALDRIM (R Fouse, 11-4)
2. 2.15 (1m) 2. TALK OF GLORY (K Baines, 9-1)
3. 2.15 (1m) 3. RICHARD (K Abdulla) G 9-11
4. 2.15 (1m) 4. BULL DOG (K Abdulla) G 9-11
5. 2.15 (1m) 5. STAR THERMIST (K Abdulla) G 9-11
6. 2.15 (1m) 6. CAPTAIN WHESTER (K Abdulla) G 9-11
7. 2.15 (1m) 7. TRAFFIC (K Abdulla) G 9-11
8. 2.15 (1m) 8. GIMPY (K Abdulla) G 9-11
9. 2.15 (1m) 9. HOT BETTY (K Abdulla) G 9-11
10. 2.15 (1m) 10. POLICEOFF (K Abdulla) G 9-11
11. 2.15 (1m) 11. SUGAR PAIN (K Abdulla) G 9-11
12. 2.15 (1m) 12. CRYSTAL MOSS (K Abdulla) J 9-11
13. 2.15 (1m) 13. APRIL (K Abdulla) J 9-11

Newcastle

- 2.30 (1m) 1. BEAU VISITA (Arande)
2. 2.30 (1m) 2. TONIC (Kaly)
3. 2.30 (1m) 3. ALSO RAN (S Fitzpand) (R)
4. 2.30 (1m) 4. SALTON (S Fitzpand) (R)
5. 2.30 (1m) 5. DESTRY (R)
6. 2.30 (1m) 6. RICHARD (K Abdulla) G 9-11
7. 2.30 (1m) 7. BULL DOG (K Abdulla) G 9-11
8. 2.30 (1m) 8. STAR THERMIST (K Abdulla) G 9-11
9. 2.30 (1m) 9. CAPTAIN WHESTER (K Abdulla) G 9-11
10. 2.30 (1m) 10. TRAFFIC (K Abdulla) G 9-11
11. 2.30 (1m) 11. GIMPY (K Abdulla) G 9-11
12. 2.30 (1m) 12. HOT BETTY (K Abdulla) G 9-11
13. 2.30 (1m) 13. POLICEOFF (K Abdulla) G 9-11



Easy Trojan winner Clantime contests tonight's Gosforth Park Cup at Newcastle

spirited attempt to become champion jockey after a nine-year gap looks like being consolidated with winning rides on Dream Launch (3.0) and Ebbolito (5.0).

DONCASTER

- 2.15 MARGARET MAIDEN AUCTION STAKES (2-y-o: £959; 7f) (21 runners)
1 000000 FRENDS FOR LIFE (N Threlk 9-11)
2 000000 LAUREN WARRIOR (R Bess 9-11)
3 000000 MURPHY (R Bess 9-11)
4 000000 NATIVE PAIN (G Brien 9-11)
5 000000 RICHARD (K Abdulla) G 9-11
6 000000 SAUCIER (J Jones Estabrook) W Broke 9-11
7 000000 SAUCIER (J Jones Estabrook) W Broke 9-11
8 000000 SAUCIER (J Jones Estabrook) W Broke 9-11
9 000000 SAUCIER (J Jones Estabrook) W Broke 9-11
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16 000000 SAUCIER (J Jones Estabrook) W Broke 9-11
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18 000000 SAUCIER (J Jones Estabrook) W Broke 9-11
19 000000 SAUCIER (J Jones Estabrook) W Broke 9-11
20 000000 SAUCIER (J Jones Estabrook) W Broke 9-11
21 000000 SAUCIER (J Jones Estabrook) W Broke 9-11

Doncaster selections

- 2.15 Paleface. 2.45 Tossara. 3.15 Glow Again. 3.45 Dreaming. 4.15 La Jambalaya. 4.45 Native Image.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent
2.15 Paleface. 2.45 Island Set. 3.15 Born to Race. 3.45 Adamstown. 4.15 Flying Bird. 4.45 Native Image.
Michael Seely's selection: 2.45 TOSARA (nap).

5.0 FLOWERS BEST BITTER HANDICAP (£2,271; 1m 4f) (8)

- 1 000000 ASSAL (USA) (M M Mervin) M 9-11
2 000000 THE BETTY (C) (M M Mervin) M 9-11
3 000000 ASSAL (USA) (M M Mervin) M 9-11
4 000000 THE BETTY (C) (M M Mervin) M 9-11
5 000000 ASSAL (USA) (M M Mervin) M 9-11
6 000000 THE BETTY (C) (M M Mervin) M 9-11
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Newcastle

- 2.15 (1m) 1. ANAKA (K Abdulla) J 9-11
2. 2.15 (1m) 2. BELLA BELLE (T Brien 9-11)
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12. 2.15 (1m) 12. KALDOORPH (W Ely 9-11)
13. 2.15 (1m) 13. ANAKA (K Abdulla) J 9-11

Newcastle selections

- 6.45 Minizer Lass. 7.15 Manvil. 7.45 LOCHTILLUM (nap). 8.15 Star Cutter. 8.45 Undershaft. 9.15 Compastion.
By Our Newmarket Correspondent
7.15 Foxroth. 7.45 Davill. 8.15 Star Cutter. 8.45 Undershaft. 9.15 Gem Stream.
Michael Seely's selection: 7.45 Lochtillum.

Cumbrian Dancer in step

Cumbrian Dancer established a new six furlongs course record at Newcastle yesterday when he won the Wallend Handicap Stakes in the Wallend Handicap Stakes.

Flatterer to upset gallant Dawn Run

From Our French Correspondent, Paris
Flatterer, who has been champion jumper in the United States for the past three years, can beat a strong field in the £45,998 Grand Course de Haies d'Auteuil (3m 1/2f hurdle), at Auteuil today.

The American seven-year-old has only six opponents but they include the last three winners of this race, Melnoir (1983), Dawn Run and Le Rheussis, plus Gacko, who established himself as the best long-distance hurdler in Britain, with a string of wins over Crispin Embury, at Ascot on April 9.

Rouse compensated by Alqirm's record

Brian Rouse, disappointed that his intended Irish Derby ride, New Trojan, is now a non-runner in tomorrow's Curragh classic, started off with a winner at Salisbury yesterday on the record breaking Alqirm. The 11-4 favourite led inside the final furlong and just held off the race at his mercy, coming home two lengths clear of Talk of Glory.

Three new track records were established at Salisbury on Wednesday, and it came as no surprise that another tumbled here on the lightning fast ground. Alqirm's time of 1 min 39.35 sec was just over a second faster than the previous best.

Blinkered first time

- NEWCASTLE: 7.45 Stoneydale. DONCASTER: 8.45 Jaynet. 4.15 Highland Tale. LINGFIELD: 2.0 Ashshak. Queen's Head. 4.30 Euckara.
11 01 BORN TO RACE (USA) L Piggott 9-11
12 01 BORN TO RACE (USA) L Piggott 9-11
13 01 BORN TO RACE (USA) L Piggott 9-11
14 01 BORN TO RACE (USA) L Piggott 9-11
15 01 BORN TO RACE (USA) L Piggott 9-11
16 01 BORN TO RACE (USA) L Piggott 9-11
17 01 BORN TO RACE (USA) L Piggott 9-11
18 01 BORN TO RACE (USA) L Piggott 9-11
19 01 BORN TO RACE (USA) L Piggott 9-11
20 01 BORN TO RACE (USA) L Piggott 9-11
21 01 BORN TO RACE (USA) L Piggott 9-11
22 01 BORN TO RACE (USA) L Piggott 9-11
23 01 BORN TO RACE (USA) L Piggott 9-11
24 01 BORN TO RACE (USA) L Piggott 9-11
25 01 BORN TO RACE (USA) L Piggott 9-11

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America's Cup Diary Seeking sponsor to create a name

Peter Isler, winner of the recent Lynton Cup match race championship, was walked out on the Coaragous Syndicate, disenchanted with Leonard Greene, the chairman, whose prime concern now appears to be to recover his \$70,000 entry deposit for the America's Cup and who a privileged position in the spectator's.

Isler's place behind the wheel has been taken over by Dave Victor who helped Greene purchase Coaragous from Ted Turner in 1981.

Opposition is airborne

Britain's 1987 America's Cup challenge took to the high seas yesterday while the opposition took to the air. The Royal Thames Yacht Club raced their two boats, Crusader I and the radically designed Crusader II, against each other for the first time in the heavy sea and 20 knot winds of the Indian Ocean course.

But members of the Australian syndicate, which is led by Alan Bond, the Perth millionaire, who will be defending the trophy in January, were not far away. They were seen near the British base and took to a helicopter in a bid to get a better view of Crusader II.

The Challenge Groups were crying foul this week when it was understood that the Royal Perth Yacht Club has put back the date that Australian syndicates can substitute a challenging boat in the defence trials.

Overseas challengers must nominate their choice after the first Round Robin series of races in October. The defending groups can now substitute their boats as late as December when it will be clear which challenger appears to offer the greatest threat.

"They're moving the goalposts," David Evans, from the British challenge, said this week. The two-month delay gives the Aussies the opportunity to copy any breakthrough ideas and means we must now keep details of David Hoolm's radical design firmly under wraps."

Tom Ehaman, director of the New York Yacht Club's America's II challenge was less concerned about the change of dates. "All 12 months have to be built before September 1st so the two-month delay will make no difference there. What does concern me is how the Australians plan to differentiate between modification and a new yacht. Changes to the bow or stern of a boat between series are quite acceptable but we do not want to see the Australians cutting everything away beneath the sheer line and welding on a new hull. I think it would be fair to draw the line at the point where a new 'Lloyd's' certificate is required."

Just how difficult it is to keep design details secret was shown up this week in Newport, Rhode Island, where two rival 12 metres have been built at Bob Dorr's yard almost within earshot of Tom Ehaman's America II.

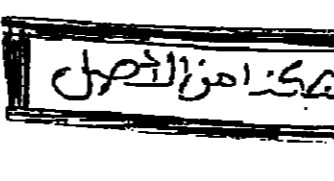
Bar talk centres on the benefits to be gained from the small rudder fitted close to the bow on Gary Mull's radical second design for the West Coast Golden Gate Challenge.

This is the boat that had to be cut in half three weeks ago to have an eight-inch flier added amidship and theories about the rudder's ability to improve lift upwind and sharpen manoeuvring will be proved or disproved during the coming weeks when the Tom Ehaman-skipped 12-metre begins trials against Mull's earlier USA design which was also subject to much re-welding.

The second new boat to come off the stocks at Director's yard this weekend is Dennis Cooney's fourth 12-metre. Measuring 64ft 3in overall, the new design is shorter than earlier boats and represents the end result of \$4m worth of intense research and development according to co-designer Dave Pedrick.

The Canadian Secret Cove Yacht Club completed trials off the West coast this week to decide which 12 metre to send to Perth. By all accounts, it proved a one-sided affair with Trace North offering little resistance against Bruce Kirby's revamped Canada II design which got the nod from all selectors.

Barry Pickthall



WORLD CUP: THOROUGHBREDS HAVE BEEN LEFT BEHIND IN WHAT HAS TURNED INTO A BATTLE OF STAMINA

German machine must put the block on the genius of Maradona

The World Cup is now not so much the thoroughbred Derby of football, a classic flat race, as a Grand National: an endurance race for steeplechasers with stamina, where skill and judgement count, but luck and physical strength may well be the most critical factor.

From David Miller, Mexico City

In an expanded tournament lasting a month, the odds are now too long for comfort on even the better teams. The competition has become something of a lottery. It is no coincidence that one of the teams in the final, West Germany, and another in the semi-final, Belgium, are distinguished by their physical discipline more than any particular level of skill.



The reluctant conclusion after France's defeat by the ultra-efficient Germans is that even had France somehow summoned once more the fading chords of a melody which had entranced us all, they could never have orchestrated a commanding performance in the final. Their midfield line of 30-year-olds would have been embarrassed by the genius of Maradona. It is he alone who threatens the clinical West Germans.

control and balance which a low centre of gravity and powerful thighs give him. The wisdom of the referee on Sunday will be a fundamental factor in the outcome. West Germany are too often illegal. I am sure that Argentina will win if West Germany are kept restrained within the boundaries of the law. Once Argentina beat England, it immediately became impossible for the referees committee to consider Courtney, of England, respect for whom now finds him in charge of the third-place match.

Be sure they will try. They kicked France sharply at the start of each half and many other times as well, though intimidation was the lesser part of the process of submission of the French. We outplayed them in midfield, and that was decisive. West Germany's scorer of the first goal, Brehme, said afterwards with justification.

player who was determined to hound him revealed a flaw in his character and a weakness in France's armoury which we had seen in 1984, especially when Fernandez and Giresse were down the left, the over-run while cinema became was challenging West Germany's intellect.

Without the injured Rocheteau, France were once more punchless up front, and Amoros, a full back who has graced the final with his style in defence and attack, could not lift their spirits or dent West Germany's. The repetitive accuracy of Magath, Mathias and Eder, the pace of Briegleb down the left, the mobility of Alofs, all this will extend Argentina more than they have yet experienced.

Bobby Robson was yesterday excitedly claiming that England had run Argentina closer than had Belgium, therefore England could have been in the World Cup final but for a Tunisian referee. There is over simplification in this reasoning which does not bear scrutiny. The over-ruling of Maradona's illegal goal would not have prevented his second, which could have come at any time. And had Argentina not been two up against England, they would not have sat back on defence with 20 minutes to go, conceding the initiative. Not to realise that England's performance in the first hour was negative and sterile is to remain blind to their needs in the future. One wrong decision by a referee does not, I fear, turn England into a potential World Cup winner. They finished where they deserved.

A last word on Maradona's handling. I do not condone his cheating, though I am by no means convinced that his handling was intentional in the moment he out-jumped Shilton. That he did not own up to the referee on the spot is hardly surprising. We cannot expect Maradona to be some Corinthian symbol of probity in a sport in which every player is at some time cheating, not excluding the English. As I have said before, Maradona has been infinitely more cheated against in his career than he has himself been a cheat.



Magic moments: Maradona shows the skill that his opponents have no answer to

Argentina reap the rewards as Maradona calls the tune

From Stuart Jones, Football Correspondent, Mexico City

The so-called one-man band has marched all the way to the World Cup final. Diego Maradona, who smoothed Argentina's path through the first round, has since taken them almost single-handedly (literally, in the quarter-final against England last weekend) through to face the West German in the Azteca Stadium on Sunday.

Even if Argentina fail to regain the trophy they won in their own homeland eight years ago, Maradona has already been crowned as the individual star of the tournament. Having scored both of the goals in the victory over Belgium on Wednesday, he threatens to overtake Linaker and claim another personal title, that of the leading marksman.

He requires one more to equal the total of England's representative and three to equal an Argentine World Cup record that has stood for 56 years. It is by Stabile, who was credited with eight at the inaugural event in 1930. It would be no surprise if he surpassed both of them.

Too much of a good thing

At least eight seven on Wednesday night I suddenly began to feel like James Bond. I often do, but in this case, I felt like James Bond on page 1 of Thunderball. The one drink too many signals itself unmistakably. His final whisky and soda in the luxurious flat in Park Lane had been no different from the ten preceding ones, but it had gone down reluctantly and had left a bitter taste and an ugly sensation of surfeit.



It was not whisky that had left me in such a state, however. It was football. It was watching the World Cup on television. And that was when France went a goal down to West Germany, and the match at once degenerated into a display of superlative ordinariness, was the first time the World Cup had seemed too long.

And it is too long, far too long. Four weeks of football is for the gourmet, not the gourmand. It has been a great World Cup: a dire first week, true, but weeks two and three have been an endless succession of treats. But on into the fourth week you need something far, far more than clever German organization to retain your interest. Dammit, the Olympic Games only last for a fortnight or so, which is just about right for revelling in total obsession without tasting "the ugly sensation of surfeit".

hotel to the football ground, and who clearly see themselves as Armand and Michaela Dennis discovering lost tribes of pygmies.

But to make an entertainment last on into the fourth week you must provide something more than marvellous, England might have supplied it, in gross parsitism, France, USSR, Denmark or Brazil might have supplied it in sheer sumptuousness. But this fourth week, as it transpires, is less than wonderful. It is simply too much. "She felt Bond's body slipping to the floor. When she let go his hair, he slumped down on the rug beside her bed. She carefully shifted her position and looked down at him. He was already asleep, with his head cradled on the inside of his forearm. The girl watched the dark, rather cruel face far from moment..." and then, I expect, she said to herself: "I know he shouldn't have stayed up to watch the second semi-final."

Simon Barnes

Referee Operation Armstrong for final

Romaldo Arppi will become the second successive Brazilian to referee a World Cup final after his appointment for Sunday's game between Argentina and West Germany.

Operation Armstrong for Robson in move

Northern Ireland's World Cup forward Gerry Armstrong has joined Brighton on a free transfer from West Bromwich Albion.

Many a supporter gave his coppers

His poetry was execrable - about the standard of an English McGonagall - but he had imagination. Thus when Hobbes scored a century in his first championship match, and was rewarded with his county cap, Craig was first to praise him, with:

Henley officials get in the mood for marching

Henley Royal Regatta's officials were on the march yesterday and will be again tomorrow. Yesterday, Mr Peter Cogh, QC, chairman of the regatta's management committee, presided at his administrative staff of 20 from their plush new £1 million headquarters alongside Henley Bridge. There must have been some heavy hearts when they reached their destination - the regatta city inside the stewards' enclosure from where they will run the Royal Regatta.

the new headquarters before they leave en masse for Henley Town Hall with a profusion of pink ties, carnations and Leander blazers for the traditional draw (3pm).

Hindered Martin limps in for a moral victory

John Martin, one of the South African entrants in this year's BOC single-handed Round the World race which starts from Newport at the end of August, scored a significant victory over three of his solo rivals when his 60ft Tuna Marine Voortrekker finished the Carlsberg Transatlantic race.

YACHTING

Martin and Rob Sharp, his crewman, finished eight hours behind Robin Knox-Johnston's catamaran British Airways to take sixth place and headsails during the 3,000-mile voyage from Plymouth.

End of the road looms for the "supercars"

The end of "supercar" rallying is expected to be announced in Paris today when FISA, the governing body of the sport, will ban highly modified cars such as the Audi Quattro Sport, Metro 6R4, the Ford RS200, the Lancia Delta and the Peugeot 206GT from world championship events.

MOTOR RALLYING

The future for Austin Rover in Group A is almost impossible to predict. We don't have suitable Group A cars," said Davenport. "Banning four-wheel drive and turbo cars does not solve the problem of safety. We have had major accidents with our cars and in every case the crews have been all right and there has been no fuel leakage."

Malcolm signs

The Shrewsbury goalkeeper Paul Malcolm is to join Bournemouth for a fee of £5,000. Malcolm, aged 21, Bournemouth's first close-season signing, was previously with Rochdale.

TODAY'S FIXTURES

Table listing various sports fixtures including Cricket, Football, and Tennis matches.

CRICKET

Radford's earned chance to test his England nerve

By John Woodcock, Cricket Correspondent

If there was a valid excuse for England's batsmen finding runs hard to find in the second Test match at Headingley, there was none for the bowlers bowling as poorly as they did. The selectors will not, I am sure, be unaware of this when they sit down this evening to choose the side for next Thursday's third Test match against India, sponsored by Cornhill, at Edgbaston.

wicket taker in English cricket, which must mean something. Ellison has dropped back for the moment, and Thomas is not even being wicketed, although Foster is, I should like someone to see Foster and Dilley bowling together. The comparison would be interesting and the side for next Thursday's third Test match against India, sponsored by Cornhill, at Edgbaston, England's attack last week was Lever, Dilley, Pringle, Embury and Gooch. The last two may be exempted from the general criticism. Embury was under-bowled and Gooch was a make-weight. The others were out-bowled by Madan Lal and Binny, who, in their previous 66 Test matches, had taken only 99 wickets between them at 41 apiece.

It was profoundly ironic that the estimable Lever, whose accuracy is a by-word, should have been the one to give India a flying start. His first eight overs took 25 runs. Together with Gifford, Pooceker and Underwood, he is the most experienced bowler in the world today, in terms of wickets taken; but he tightened up, just as golfers do on the green, or more commonly, the first green, when they reach a certain age.

Selectors should resist old-timers

his first outing as England's captain. He will have five bowlers this time. I imagine, if only on principle, in the recent Test matches at Edgbaston, as at Headingley, four would have been enough.

Not that it is necessarily a matter of age. At Brisbane on the MCC tour of 1958/59 Freddie Brown, the manager, asked whether Brian Statham might share my room. He and Peter Loader were inseparable companions, and Loader had just gone down with flu. With the first Test matches a few days away it was vital that Statham, Loader's room-mate, should be spared the bug.

The selectors may be expected to resist the call to bring back Radford and to send Chris Smith for David Smith of Worcestershire. Lamb has become very much a part of the furniture, having missed neither a Test match nor a one-day international since coming into the side in 1982. He has looked splendidly and raised many a drooping spirit. But a highest score of 67 in his last 29 Test innings is no longer the form of a number four or five. It seems only fair to give someone else a chance, just as he has given Radford one, and a rest from it all could well be to Lamb's advantage.

Even Statham had Test butterflies

often applied to David Gower, he was perpetually "laid back" - except, as it was to find out, on the morning of the Test match. He could be put on a blindfold and still have put the ball on the spot. He was renowned for his accuracy. Yet when the Test dawned, he had butterflies in his stomach.

So, at Headingley, did Lever. Nerves, you see, affect bowlers as well as batsmen. In the West Indies last winter, England's faster bowlers also gave too much away. Botham, Ellison, Thomas and Foster all conceded runs in the Test matches at between 3.3 and 4.2 runs an over. There was a basic lack of control - of disciplined bowling as there was at Headingley. This being so, the time has come to see how Radford fares as a properly accurate bowler at this level. For the last season and a half he has been the steadiest.

Poet who was an institution

The McGonagall of the Oval

A familiar and affectionately-looked character among the crowd, prosaically calling himself "Captain of the Spectators". In 1906 there was a rough match against Yorkshire at the Oval. Surrey won, but for some reason the crowd was displeased, and McGonagall, the Yorkshire players afterwards, Craig raised his arms and his voice: "Three cheers for Lord Hawke and Yorkshire!" The cheers were given, and the malcontents subsided away.

He came to be quite an institution among the crowd, prosaically calling himself "Captain of the Spectators". In 1906 there was a rough match against Yorkshire at the Oval. Surrey won, but for some reason the crowd was displeased, and McGonagall, the Yorkshire players afterwards, Craig raised his arms and his voice: "Three cheers for Lord Hawke and Yorkshire!" The cheers were given, and the malcontents subsided away.

Another march, or rather procession, may be viewed tomorrow at about 2.40pm. There will be a stewards' meeting in

the third verse, his metrical weakness trips him, but he makes a brave recovery: "You may perhaps get a 'duck' now and then, Like Tom Hayward and other great players, But the foe is in doubt Till the umpire says 'Out', And the enemy whippers 'Amen'."

He was a pleasing, baroque ornament to the game in a decorative period. And it should comfort literary aspirants that if he had been a better writer, he would long since have been forgotten.

Alan Gibson

GOLF

Two-stroke advantage gives uncommon pleasure to Commans

Ron Commans has played alongside Jack Nicklaus and Tom Watson...

He made an inauspicious start, after teeing off from the 10th, by dropping a shot at the 11th...

Commans, aged 27, can give M Pelissier 41 years. He could also have given his playing partner a 53-stroke lead...

They both turned professional later that year, but whereas Pavin is fast approaching \$1 million in official winnings on the US Tour...

He made an inauspicious start, after teeing off from the 10th, by dropping a shot at the 11th, but he covered the next five holes in only 13 strokes...

With four holes remaining, Commans needed two birdies for a 59 but he dropped two shots...

Commans, who started playing at the age of 13 in Westlake Village, on the outskirts of Los Angeles...

Commans lost his playing privileges by earning only \$4,534 for 20th place in the money list last year.

"I played a couple of practice rounds with Jack Nicklaus and Tom Watson but apart from that my efforts in America are best forgotten," added Commans.

He made an inauspicious start, after teeing off from the 10th, by dropping a shot at the 11th, but he covered the next five holes in only 13 strokes...



Driving at 65: Ove Sellberg, of Sweden, during second round

Games clash rules out top juniors

A clash of dates with the Commonwealth Games has robbed Britain of two of its leading medal hopes in the European junior swimming championships.

Mark Foster, the Millfield School freestyle specialist, and Shona Smart, the talented City of Chester all-round performer...

Foster, from Southend, finished sixth in the 100m freestyle in last year's championship and is currently second in the European junior rankings...

Alan Lawrence, the junior team manager, said: "We have this problem of clashing with the Commonwealth Games or Olympic Games every two years, and not having Mark or Shona has obviously weakened the squad."

WEDNESDAY'S LATE RESULTS
KEMPTON PARK
Swimming: 6-11: 2. Nairn (11-1); 3. White (11-1); 4. Faraway (11-1); 5. Wylie (11-1)...

Grandmother among leaders

A Finnish grandmother stands unexpectedly among the leaders after the first round of the Volvo Dutch women's open championship...

She missed four putts within four feet, so that her score could have been still more remarkable. But she was of a mood

coherent squad in time to gain superiority over the much-vaunted Southfield. They nearly did so. Graham and Churchward curbed the normally irresistible Richard-Kent Tandem...

The evening encounter was the first semi-final of the Bathurst Cup. This was won 6-0 by Kennelot Stables against David Peat's Rosamundo.

The question was could Rio Pardo, though unfamiliar, grow together as a convincingly

Men's singles

- W. Meaurio (Aus) bt R. Stoll (GB) 6-4, 6-2, 6-7, 6-4, 6-7, 6-2. H. Leconte (Fr) bt C. Dowdall (GB) 6-2, 6-7, 6-4, 6-7, 6-2...

Men's doubles

- Holders: H. Günthardt (Switz) and B. Taroczy (Hung). F. Birk (Aus) and J. A. Farrer (Swi) 6-2, 6-4, 6-7, 6-4, 6-7, 6-2...

Women's singles

- Holders: M. Navratilova (US). First round: G. Donnelly (US) and P. Fleming (US) 6-2, 6-4, 6-7, 6-4, 6-7, 6-2...

Women's doubles

- Holders: K. Jordan (US) and S. Frylie (Aus). First round: B. S. Gerken (US) and D. S. Van Rensburg (Bra) 6-2, 6-4, 6-7, 6-2...

Key to countries

- Arg: Argentina; Aus: Australia; Bel: Belgium; Bra: Brazil; Bul: Bulgaria; Can: Canada; Cze: Czech Republic; Den: Denmark; Ec: Ecuador; Fin: Finland; Fra: France; Ger: Great Britain; Gre: Greece; Hong: Hong Kong; Ind: India; Indon: Indonesia; Ire: Ireland; Ita: Italy; Mex: Mexico; Mor: Morocco; Net: Netherlands; NZ: New Zealand; Per: Peru; Pol: Poland; Por: Portugal; Rus: Russian Republic; Rom: Romania; S. Afr: South Africa; S. Rep: South Republic; Swe: Sweden; Swi: Switzerland; Tai: Thailand; Ukr: Ukraine; URSS: USSR; Ven: Venezuela; W. Ger: West Germany; Yug: Yugoslavia; Zim: Zimbabwe.

Vengsarkar is in a hurry as the Indians win again

Dilip Vengsarkar continued his superb form for the Indians as the tourists comfortably beat a League Cricket Conference side by 72 runs in their one-day match at Chester-le-Street yesterday.

Asked to score at just under six an over, the Conference side were helped by a defiant second-wicket stand worth 136 runs between the West Indian Carl Hooper, who produced an aggressive 75, including eight fours and three sixes, and John Foster (61).

Denmark and the Netherlands pursue a joint celebration in their bid to promote the favourable acclaim of European cricket in today's penultimate round of qualifying group games in the ICC Trophy.

Semi-finals in sight for European pair

The Netherlands take on Gibraltar in Group Two knowing that their seventh successive win would guarantee top spot in the section, at the very least by the distinction of a superior run rate.

The other Group Two semi-final pits Britain against the United States and Bermuda but the Americans, who have perhaps surprised themselves in staying in contention, have been hit by the departure home on financial considerations of both Jefferson Mitchell and Teddy Foster, two of their leading players.

Hertfordshire's tale of eastern promise

Hertfordshire, one of Minor Counties cricket's corps d'elite, are again emerging as worthy of a flutter for 1986 honours.

Cumberland also have two wins from four games, the first of which was an innings victory at Durham, the current holders in the semi-finals on Sunday, July 6.

Gloucester's fast men are too slow

Gloucestershire, who paid the maximum of £8,000 in fines last summer for not bowling their overs quickly enough, are in trouble again. They have averaged 18.2 overs an hour in their first 10 matches against a required rate of 18.5.

ICC TROPHY TABLES

Table with columns: Group 1, Group 2, and ICC XI championship. Rows list various teams and their match results.

ENTERTAINMENTS

- ART GALLERIES: Continued from page 39. MAZELTY, COHEN & FOX: 299 3737 First Class 24H 7 Day... NEW STREET GALLERIES: 37... GARDNER PLAZA: 485 2443... GORDON LESTER SQUARE: 930 01111111...



Leading lady: Lisa Lloyd beating Pam Casale yesterday

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Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

BBC 1

- 6.55 **Ceeffix AM**. Breakfast Time with Debbie Greenwood and Nick Ross. News at 6.55, 7.25 and 8.55; regional news, weather and traffic at 6.57, 7.27, 7.57 and 8.27; regional and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; World Cup and Wimbledon reports at 7.15 and 8.15; Lynn Faulds Wood's consumer report at 8.32; a review of the morning newspapers at 8.37. Plus the weekend's best food buys, gardening advice, and the latest pop music news. The guests include Simon Ward, Elsa Ferri of the National Children's Bureau with a guide to parents on finding the best playgroup, nursery school or day care, and an examination of child-minding. (r) 9.35 **The Parent Programme**. Elsa Ferri of the National Children's Bureau with a guide to parents on finding the best playgroup, nursery school or day care, and an examination of child-minding. (r) 9.35 **1.00 News After Noon** with Richard Whitmore and Mona Stuart. Includes news headlines and subtitles 1.25 Regional news and weather 1.30 Mr Bean. (r) 1.45 **Wimbledon 86**. The fifth day's play, introduced by Harry Carpenter. 4.12 **Regional News**. 4.15 **The Amazing Adventures of Tony Blair**. (r) 4.20 **Dogman and the Three Musketeers**. Cartoon series. (r) 4.45 **Fast Forward**. Video fun for the young. 5.10 **Genie Ben**. Adventures of a young boy with a pet bear. 5.25 **World Cup Report**. 5.30 **News with Susi Lawley and Nicholas Witchell**. 6.35 **London Plus**. Richard Jameson, sitting among the potted plants for the last time, gives a glowing welcome to Pat Phoenix, Peter Bailey, and Mel Smith. Van Brunt reviews the music. 7.40 **No Place Like Home**. Domestic comedy series starring William Gauris as the tight-fisted, tonight reluctantly coming to terms with the fact that his own, unmarried, son is about to make him a grandfather. (r) (Ceeffix) 7.50 **London Plus**. Richard Jameson, sitting among the potted plants for the last time, gives a glowing welcome to Pat Phoenix, Peter Bailey, and Mel Smith. Van Brunt reviews the music. 8.10 **News with John Humphrys and Andrew Harvey**. 8.30 **Big Deal**. Robby Box, a schemer from Liverpool, is a chartered surveyor from Australia; Philip McDonald, a schoolmaster from Liverpool; Henry Farquhar-Smith, a teacher from Stamford; Jennifer Kaveney, a careers information officer from Canterbury; and Gurnell, a schoolteacher from Balham. 10.35 **Wimbledon 86**. Desmond Wood introduces the Match of the Day. 11.35 **Film: The Silence of Donald Lamb (1979)** starring Lee Van Burton and Saul Scrima. A made-for-television drama, based on a true case, about a 20-year-old deaf and dumb black youth accused of murdering a prostitute. Because he could not defend himself in his own trial to an institution and his lawyer, also deaf, begins a five-year crusade for justice for his client. Directed by Frank Perry. 1.10 **Weather**.

TV-AM

- 6.15 **Good Morning Britain**, presented by Nick Owen and Jayne Irving. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 6.30, 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; financial news at 6.55; sport at 6.40, 7.40 and 8.40; exercises at 6.55; cartoon at 7.25; pop music news at 7.30; Jimmy Neaves's television highlights at 8.35; Anita Harris at 9.00; and losing weight on a health farm at 9.12.
- 9.25 **Thames news headlines** followed by **Film: The Maitis Story (1953)** starring Alec Guinness, Jack Hawkins, Anthony Steel and Ffrench Tombs. The true story of the George Cross island as it was defended by the RAF, the Home Guard, the Garmers. Directed by Brian Desmond Hurst. 11.25 **Home Cookery** with the Ferret. Onelists. (r) 11.30 **About Britain**. The history of the Channel Islands continues with the story of the first day of the 100th Championships, introduced by Harry Carpenter. The commentators are Dan Maskell, John Serratt, Gerald Williams, Barry Davies, Mark Cox, Bill Treffall, Ann Jones and Virginia McKenna. 12.30 **Jobwatch**. How German employers train their job assistants. (shown on Sunday) 1.00 **News at One with Leonard Parfitt**. 1.20 **Thames news** presented by Tricia Ingram. 1.30 **Film: Danger by My Side (1959)** starring Maureen Connolly. Thriller about a sister who, when her policeman brother is murdered, goes undercover to bring the killers to justice. Directed by Charles Saunders. 3.00 **Task Force**. The High Rise. Archie Menzies is upset by a particular spot 3.25 **News**. 3.30 **News headlines** and weather. 4.00 **Rainbow**. A repeat of the programme shown at 12.10 4.15 **The Moonies**. Cartoon series. (r) 4.25 **News at Five**. The Biz. Fashions and pop video show presented by Kelly Temple and Lisa Maxwell. 5.15 **The Parlor Game**. With David Jason, Liz Goddard and Alfred Marks. 5.45 **News with Alastair Burnet**. 6.00 **The 6 O'Clock Show**. Michael Aspel and his team take a very look at London and Londoners. 7.00 **Me and My Girl**. In a moment of madness Simon swaps jobs with a radiator painter. Starring Richard O'Sullivan and Tim Brooke-Jones. (r) 7.30 **International Athletics**. The McVie's Challenge match between England and the United States from Gatshead International Stadium. The commentators are Alan Parry and Peter Matthews. (continued on Channel 4) 9.00 **The Practice**. Drama serial set in a modern Health Centre. (Orac) 10.00 **News at Ten with Alastair Burnet and Martyn Lewis**. The London Programme. In The Next Paper War: The Battle of the Evenings. John Taylor reports on the growing threat to the Standard's five year monopoly of the London evening newspaper market. 11.00 **Hawaii Five-O**. Steve McGarratt solves another sun-kissed crime. 11.50 **Film: The Humiliated (1978)** starring Richard Kiel, Barbara Bach and Arthur Kennedy. Science fiction thriller set in a post nuclear war world in which a mad scientist has created a mutant human with which he plans to take over the world. Directed by George B. Sear. 1.30 **Night Thoughts**.

BBC 2

- 6.55 **Open University: Management and the School 7.20 Weekend Outlook**. Ends at 7.25. 9.00 **Ceeffix**. 1.55 **Wimbledon 86**. Action from the Centre and Number One Courts on the first day of the 100th Championships, introduced by Harry Carpenter. The commentators are Dan Maskell, John Serratt, Gerald Williams, Barry Davies, Mark Cox, Bill Treffall, Ann Jones and Virginia McKenna. 8.30 **Gardeners' World**. Geoff Hamilton and Clay Jones visit Hertford House, Cambo, Northumberland, the home of Frank and Marjorie Lawley. Ten years ago they decided to turn a derelict acre of farmyard into an English country garden, and among the results are a physic garden full of aromatic and medicinal herbs, arranged in random clumps, and a walled garden, essential when 700 feet up without any tree protection, with over 2,000 hardy plants in beds of individual plants. 9.00 **Entertainment USA 2**. Introduced by Jonathan King in Dallas. For Worth, Houston and San Antonio. 9.30 **News**. 10.00 **News at Ten with Alastair Burnet and Martyn Lewis**. The London Programme. In The Next Paper War: The Battle of the Evenings. John Taylor reports on the growing threat to the Standard's five year monopoly of the London evening newspaper market. 11.00 **Hawaii Five-O**. Steve McGarratt solves another sun-kissed crime. 11.50 **Film: The Humiliated (1978)** starring Richard Kiel, Barbara Bach and Arthur Kennedy. Science fiction thriller set in a post nuclear war world in which a mad scientist has created a mutant human with which he plans to take over the world. Directed by George B. Sear. 1.30 **Night Thoughts**.

CHANNEL 4

- 2.15 **Their Landlady's House**. (r) 2.30 **Grove Music**. The Grove, better known as the Notting Hill Gate district of London, is a hot-bed of musical expression. This programme explores its diversity and includes performances from a 1980 concert in the area's carnival featuring Adams, Sons of Jah, Brimstone and Junior Brown, who also talk about their musical background. (r) 3.25 **Asian Arts**. In part two of the series on Asian artists in Britain. The Tara Arts Group, Sharifuddin Udin, Great Indian Circus, and Alpans Sa Gupta entertain. 4.15 **Arrow to the Sun**. An animated film based on a Pagan Indian tale. 4.30 **Dancer's Days**. The final episode of the week and Julia is followed and watched by a strange man. 5.00 **The Chart Show**. Pop music charts from home, country and overseas. 5.45 **Revid**. A review of the week's video releases. 6.00 **News**. 6.30 **News headlines** and weather. 6.30 **News at Ten with Alastair Burnet and Martyn Lewis**. The London Programme. In The Next Paper War: The Battle of the Evenings. John Taylor reports on the growing threat to the Standard's five year monopoly of the London evening newspaper market. 11.00 **Hawaii Five-O**. Steve McGarratt solves another sun-kissed crime. 11.50 **Film: The Humiliated (1978)** starring Richard Kiel, Barbara Bach and Arthur Kennedy. Science fiction thriller set in a post nuclear war world in which a mad scientist has created a mutant human with which he plans to take over the world. Directed by George B. Sear. 1.30 **Night Thoughts**.

CHOICE

Friday night summertime TV, they say, is supposed to hang up its brains, forget the worries of the week, and let waves of undemanding entertainment wash over us. And, with two striking exceptions, tonight's television conforms with that pattern. The only problem with these two odd-man-out is that you are going to need strong stomachs to cope with them. Not that this should be any difficulty if you have managed to survive all the previous series editions of the popular series **YOUR LIFE IN THEIR HANDS** (BBC2, 9.30pm), compared with which tonight's film about a young lady whose back is sliced open to correct a spine deformity is practically bloodless (only two tablespoons of gore are shed). It helps, too, that the surgeon who performs the operation is also a bit of a comic. While looping wires around the steel rod that will bring the spine back to true rather than the baroque stunts we use to tie up tomato plants, he makes the observation that the next time the girl goes through an airport metal-detection test, she will have an awful lot of explaining to do. **STYME: GONY AND THE ECSTASY** (ITV, 10.30pm), a film about infertility and how medical science is trying to get round it, rightly assumes that the private misery, then we ought to be able to take everything the film throws at us, both emotionally and

Radio 4

- 5.55 **Shipping**. 6.00 **News Briefing**. 6.10 **Farming**. 6.25 **Prayer**. 6.30 **Today**. 6.30 **News**. 6.55 **7.55 News**. 7.00 **8.00 News**. 8.05 **Thought for the Day**. 8.35 **Thought for the Day**. 8.45 **Thought for the Day**. 8.55 **Thought for the Day**. 9.00 **News**. 9.05 **Desert Island Discs**. 9.15 **Desert Island Discs**. 9.25 **Desert Island Discs**. 9.35 **Desert Island Discs**. 9.45 **Desert Island Discs**. 9.55 **Desert Island Discs**. 10.00 **News**. 10.05 **Desert Island Discs**. 10.15 **Desert Island Discs**. 10.25 **Desert Island Discs**. 10.35 **Desert Island Discs**. 10.45 **Desert Island Discs**. 10.55 **Desert Island Discs**. 11.05 **Desert Island Discs**. 11.15 **Desert Island Discs**. 11.25 **Desert Island Discs**. 11.35 **Desert Island Discs**. 11.45 **Desert Island Discs**. 11.55 **Desert Island Discs**. 12.05 **Desert Island Discs**. 12.15 **Desert Island Discs**. 12.25 **Desert Island Discs**. 12.35 **Desert Island Discs**. 12.45 **Desert Island 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SPORT

Lloyd hangs around for the practice

By Rex Bellamy, Tennis Correspondent

Chris Lloyd had a match point in the second set but took an hour and 55 minutes to beat Pam Casale of New Jersey 6-0, 5-7, 6-1, at Wimbledon yesterday.

Mrs Lloyd, three times champion, won 10 of the first 11 games and six of the last seven. In between, Miss Casale raised the level of her game to win six games out of seven at a time when Mrs Lloyd was immersed in one of those Centre Court trances that sometimes afflict even the best of players.

For most of the match Mrs Lloyd played remarkably well, better in fact than she needed to. Her anticipation was such that she usually seemed to have advance notice of the next question Miss Casale would ask her. It did not matter much whether Miss Casale stayed back, as she usually did, or went to the net. Mrs Lloyd had all the answers.

When Miss Casale was serving at 1-4 and 0-40 in the second set, it seemed that within minutes both would be back in the dressing room. That was when Mrs Lloyd became absent-minded and Miss Casale began to play very well indeed. At 5-4 Mrs Lloyd had a match point but put her backhand into the net. A similar error eventually cost her the set but she was to lose only 12 more points. In short, Mrs Lloyd was never in danger of defeat but was grateful for some sharpening exercise.

In the Royal Box, Geoff Boycott must have sympathized with her during that long period when nothing much would go right. There are times when even the most gifted of batsmen cannot find a gap in the field.

Two of the best pairs of legs in women's tennis vanish from the singles field. Lisa Bonder, who was beaten by Anne Minter, of Melbourne, and Marcela Mesker, who had to retire from her match with Lori McNeil of Houston. Miss Mesker slipped, fell, and displaced a knee cap.

This is turning out to be a hazardous tournament for the ladies. It is not much consolation that the revolution twice forecast in these columns has happened. The ball girl has gone to work on the Centre Court for the first time in the history of the championships.

In considering the tournament's medical implications, one has to express some surprise at the explosive power of Mike Leach's first service. Leach, left-handed, is enviably well-built but by no means a Superman. So how on earth does he manage to hit the ball so awfully hard?

I consulted two experts in muscles and all that stuff. One talked about the rotator cuff and ancillary help from legs, hips and trunk. The other likened the combination of shoulder, elbow and wrist to the steering wheel of a fine sports car but added: "It needs direction." All that needs to be added is that Leach was beaten 7-6, 7-6, 6-2 by Brad Gilbert.

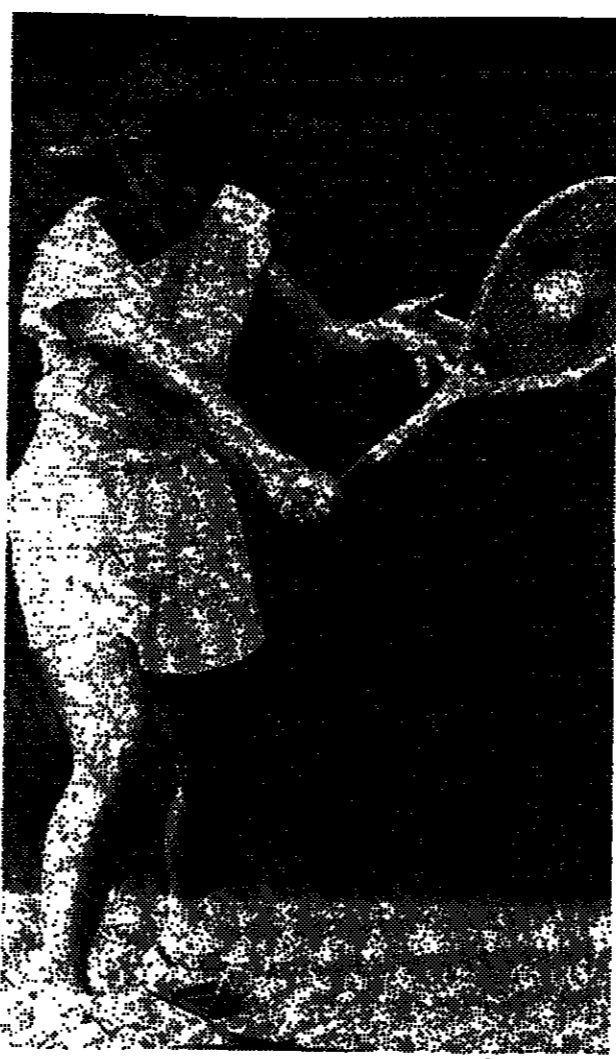
The most interesting service

on view yesterday was not Leach's. It was that of Milan Srejber, who is 6ft 7½in tall and — just to tidy up the details — takes a size 13½ in shoes. When Srejber needs a classy pair of walking shoes, large cows live in dread. Standing on the wrong end of Srejber's first service is like loitering at street level and coming under fire from an upstairs window.

The velocity of that service remains hazardous even when the ball has rebounded from court-side furniture. And the sight of 6ft 7½in of tennis player doing double-knee jumps, just to loosen up, is enough to remind any opponent of the importance of going to church on Sunday.

Heinz Günthardt demonstrated yesterday that he is a better player than Srejber. But Srejber beat him anyway. Like Srejber, Filipovic-Mecir is a Czechoslovak. Other than that, the contrast between them is striking. Mecir is a gentle, dreamy, unassuming man who looks no kind of professional sportsman — not, anyway, until one notices the anticipation and loping strides that seemingly make him omnipresent. They call him "the big cat". Mecir is deceptive, too: his shots are difficult to "read".

Mecir is an enthusiastic angler who knows how to play his fish. On grass courts, he needs a harpoon rather than a fishing rod — but he knows more about this kind of tennis than Ulf Stenlund does. The Swede was hooked and landed.



Anne Minter (above left) recovered to defeat Lisa Bonder (right), as Henri Leconte (below) beat Colin Dowdeswell in straight sets. (Photographs: Suresh Karadia and Harry Kerr)

No 9 seed yields to Hobbs's pluck

By David Powell

Anne Hobbs, having survived near defeat by the lowly ranked Briton, Belinda Borneo, on Wednesday, yesterday achieved the finest Wimbledon victory in 10 years of playing the tournament. Miss Hobbs, aged 26, from Cheshire, defeated the No 9 seed, Zina Garrison, of the United States, to reach the last 32 of the women's singles.

Miss Garrison fought her way into the semi-finals last year, at which stage she ran into Martina Navratilova. Yesterday the American encountered the greater determination which has been evident in the performances of most British players (John Lloyd excepted) this week and lost 6-4, 0-6, 6-4.

Miss Hobbs, the national champion, built on her moment of luck in the final set when a return of the American's service from the baseline hit the net, appeared to die, but trickled over. That gave her the crucial break in the fifth game and, with every point that she won earning applause from the crowd on court two, she kept her composure to the end.

Miss Hobbs said: "I started to get blitzed in the second set so I changed my pattern. I started to lob her and hit low slices at her and get a lot more balls into court to make her play a bit more."

Miss Hobbs, who is 41 places beneath Miss Garrison's tenth position in the world rankings, added: "I am just as good as a lot of players and this match showed I can hold it together. I have never done it consistently before but have been this year."

The British No 3 has twice reached the fourth round and to do so again will need to beat the unseeded Robin White, of the United States.

Leconte in control

By Richard Evans

There was a time when Henri Leconte was considered such a wild young man that the French federation threw up their hands with a great Gallic shrug and allowed Ion Tiriac to take control of his career.

The extent of the talent, of course, was never in doubt, but even Tiriac, not a man to tolerate any nonsense, found the delightful and maddening Henri a bit much and as soon as the Romanian guru saw the mighty Boris looming on the horizon, Tiriac and Leconte parted with a friendly handshake.

Now, as Colin Dowdeswell discovered on court two yesterday, Leconte, married and matured, is only wild in spasms and the spasms are becoming less detrimental to his chances of victory. Even in a swirling wind Leconte exposed the limitations in Dowdeswell's hit-and-run style of tennis and won 6-1, 6-

4, 6-4. Hepatitis took Leconte off the circuit for the first four months of the year, a setback that made his fine performance in reaching the semi-final of the French Open all the more praiseworthy. The resolution Leconte displayed in fighting his way back to fitness with the help of the former French No 1, Patrice Dominguez, revealed the new seriousness that has lifted the level of his tennis.

Dowdeswell did his best and even broke serve to lead 3-1 in the second set. But the British No 3, a bright and intelligent man with a faraway look in his eyes, never exudes an air of confidence on court and by the time Leconte had whipped another top-spin backhand past the end of his nose, Dowdeswell seemed resigned to the fact that Leconte, for all his eccentricities, is a very formidable player indeed.

Bassett in debt to her family

Carling Bassett has been leading two lives — those of a grieving daughter and a winning tennis star. Now, she says, the two are coming to terms with each other.

The 18-year-old Canadian, seeded 11th, advanced to the third round at Wimbledon yesterday beating Rosalyn Fairbank of South Africa 6-1, 7-6.

It was her second toughest game of the tournament, following a three-set first round match against Britain's Glynis Coles. She dropped the opening set 6-1 before winning 7-6, 7-5, 6-1.

Her father, John Bassett, a former Canadian Davis Cup player and later owner of the Tampa Bay Bandits football team, died last month after a long struggle with cancer. His death came less than two weeks before the French Open championships.

Miss Bassett decided to play at Roland Garros, but, at her request, none of her family went to Paris to watch her. At Wimbledon she has them around her.

"My sister (Heidi) is here and my mother is too. I am still a little bit uncomfortable, but it's good to be with them."

ATHLETICS

Coe's race in Holland crucial for Harrison

By Pat Butcher, Athletics Correspondent

Rob Harrison has every right to feel that he is named captain of England for tonight's McVitie's Challenge match against the United States in Gateshead is a dubious distinction in the light of his exclusion from the Commonwealth Games team. But considering what captaincy did for Ray Wilkins and Mike Gatting, it could also be an invitation to further disaster.

"It is ironic isn't it," Harrison said laconically yesterday, "being named captain of a team you are not even part of in three weeks time". But, in fact, Harrison still feels that he has an outside chance of taking the 1,500 metres place being left open for Sebastian Coe in England's Commonwealth Games team for Edinburgh.

In Hengelo, The Netherlands, this evening Coe will run a 1,500 metres against José Abascal, the Olympic bronze medal winner, having switched from the 800. "If Coe runs well in Hengelo, I don't think he'll have any problem getting selected," Harrison said. "But if he doesn't, I am trying to get into the race against him in Stockholm next week. There seems to be some hesitancy on Coe's part to let me into the race in Stockholm."

There has been talk of him making a world record attempt, and this is from a guy

who was too injured to run the AAA last weekend.

Harrison's criticism of Coe is due to the fact that the Olympic champion did not turn up at Crystal Palace last weekend to dispute his place for Edinburgh in what were originally called the final Commonwealth Games trials.

The further irony is that Harrison is still the fastest man in the Commonwealth so far this year at 1,500 metres, with the 3min 35.74sec he ran in winning the UK Championships last month. He runs the 1,000 metres tonight.

Willie Banks, the world triple jump record holder has described his collection of colleagues as: "The best American team to leave our shores since the 1983 world championships". But they have not exactly raised a storm in Gateshead, since the majority of the team are unknown outside the U.S. The focus will still be on local hero, Steve Cram, who runs a mile against Peter Elliott, the man who is to partner Cram at 800 metres at the Commonwealth Games.

This will be the first opportunity to assess Cram's form at his world record distance and the race should be relatively fast since James Mays has been conscripted to set the pace, as he did 11 months ago in Oslo when Cram set the current world record. That, incidentally, is the last time that Cram ran a mile.



Castle's spirit thrills fans

By David Powell

Andrew Castle, who spent his first night at Wimbledon walking the streets because he had nowhere to stay, found a place in the hearts of the British public yesterday with the most courageous performance by a home men's singles player since John Lloyd put out the No 4 seed, Roscoe Tanner, in 1977.

Castle, aged 22, needed a wild card to gain entry into the championships but came within three games of defeating Mats Wilander, the Swede, who had been seeded to play Ivan Lendl in the final. He eventually lost 4-6, 7-6, 6-7, 6-4, 6-0.

Castle, from Tamston, is unranked in Britain but performed well enough on the satellite circuit to persuade Paul Hutchins, the national team manager, that he should be nominated for an invitation to play the singles here. On Sunday night, before he was due to play his first round match, he refused to stay in a flat he was renting because it was damp and was unable to find hotel accommodation until two o'clock in the morning. Castle showed the sun-strung will yesterday against an opponent who, despite his tender years (Wilander is still only 21), has played in all of the last three Australian finals, winning two. Castle was not afraid to involve himself in rallies against a player who, with his clay court experience, is perfectly suited to manoeuvring rather than the serve and volley tactics which tend to be more profitable on grass.

It was one of those matches in which you did not have to watch the tennis to know who was winning the points: every time Castle struck a winner there was a thunder of applause but when Wilander replied the quiet was deathly.

Castle might have sown up the match in straight sets had his service been less erratic. He experienced little difficulty in the first, although Wilander did have two points for the first break in the tenth game and took the set with a fierce backhand return of service.

The Briton won each of his next three service games with an ace but was broken to trail 3-4. At 3-5 double faults began to appear more regularly in Castle's game and he had to save two set points before putting back to 4-5. But, finding inspiration for the first time against Wilander's service, allowing the Swede only one point, an ace, he drew level and at that stage looked capable of taking a two sets to love lead. He will, perhaps, look back on the tie-break as his ruin. He served two doubles, the only points won against service, as Wilander triumphed in the shoot-out 7-3.

Castle did rather better in third set tie-break but the burden of expectation from the crowd on court one began to weigh too heavily on his mind. It seemed that the only person in the arena who wanted Wilander to win was Wilander and he had his way.

BASKETBALL

EBBA give in to the top clubs' demands

Basketball's own "Super League" rebels have won their battle for greater power. The country's top clubs will be allowed to run the first division of the men's national league themselves from the start of the 1987-88 season.

The English Basketball Association (EBBA) said it would not be possible to hand over before that date and the clubs accept that view. John Deacon, the chairman of a company who represent many of the clubs, said: "We can now face the future with optimism."

Plea to MPS on loss of playing fields

Peter Lawson, a top sports administrator, is urging Parliament to debate the declining games opportunities for schoolchildren. As secretary of the Central Council of Physical Recreation, he wants a full debate and a free vote on what he says are "escalating problems" caused by the loss of school playing fields and other publicly-owned sports spaces.

Yesterday he sent a letter to the chief whips of both the Conservative and Labour Parties, saying: "As the national association of sport in this country it is the duty of the CPCR to draw to the attention of Parliament the devastating damage to British society caused by this willful neglect of, and casual indifference to, sporting facilities and arrangements for the young people of this country."

SPORT IN BRIEF

Big match dilemma

The publication of next season's Football League fixtures has produced a match on October 25 which threatens to adversely affect the attendance at the first rugby league international between Great Britain and Australia. With Old Trafford chosen as the venue for the match, the Rugby League were expecting a large attendance including thousands of Manchester United football supporters.

Double take

Oldham rugby league club completed the signing yesterday of two Australian players — Gary Bridges, aged 24, a stand-off half, and Bruce Clarke, aged 26, a 16-stone prop. Both play first-grade rugby in Sydney. Bridges for Balmain and Clarke for Western Suburbs.

Gills in trouble

Gillingham, who narrowly missed promotion from the third division last season, are facing a winding-up order from the Inland Revenue. It has been claimed the Kent club owes £700,000 of which £160,000 is due to go to the tax man. The Inland Revenue say that unless a substantial amount is paid to them by July 16, they will enforce the order.

Just rewards

Northamptonshire have awarded county caps to their two Northampton-born all-rounders, Duncan Wild and David Capel.

Honours even

Diego Maradona, of Argentina and Manuel Negrete, of Mexico, have unveiled plaques in the changing rooms of the Azteca Stadium in Mexico City honouring them for scoring the two finest goals seen at the stadium during the World Cup.

Triple bid

The Abercorn club, in Paisley, are to stage the Gateway British Isles bowls championship and home internationals from July 7 to 11. Attempting to add to his collection of trophies will be David Bryant, England's former world champion, who will be partnering David Rhys-Jones and Keith Frost.

Carrying on

Ray Prosser has been re-elected as coach to Pontypool, the Welsh rugby union champions, for the 18th season in succession. Prosser first took the role in 1969 after a playing career in which he won 22 Wales caps and toured New Zealand in 1959 with the British Lions. His assistant, Ivor Taylor, has also been re-elected.

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